



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building (06/N)
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7218 9000

Ref:
FOI2016/08614/FOI2016/08615/FOI2016/08
617

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

23 September 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your emails of 13 September 2016 in which you requested the following information:

FOI2016/08614

I would like to know how many members of British Navy have tested positive for taking steroids or muscle-gaining supplements over the past five years.

FOI2016/08615

I would like to know how many members of British Army have tested positive for taking steroids or muscle-gaining supplements over the past five years. This should include British forces within the UK and when stationed abroad.

FOI2016/08617

I would like to know how many members of British Airforce have tested positive for taking steroids or muscle-gaining supplements over the past five years.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. I am writing to confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information within the scope of your request. The data you have requested is set out in the below table and your attention is drawn to the following advice to explain the data provided:

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, the figures provided have been rounded to the nearest 10, where “-” denotes zero, “~” denotes a number less than or equal to five. When rounding up to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias. Due to the rounding methods used, totals may not always equal the sum of the parts.

Year	Royal Navy	Army	RAF
2012	-	20	~
2013	~	110	10
2014	10	90	~
2015	10	20	~
2016	~	20	~

Drug misuse is incompatible with life in the Armed Forces and will not be tolerated, it is considered incompatible with military service and operational effectiveness. Personnel caught taking drugs can expect to be discharged. The MOD has a policy of Compulsory Drug Testing (CDT), which seeks to reinforce the message that drug use by Service personnel is unacceptable.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 2nd Floor, Zone N, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat