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Henry Shelford

24 May 2023

[request-975712-38d6e259@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-975712-38d6e259@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Shelford

Thank you for your email of 25 April in which you requested the following information:

*'(1) How many people currently serving within the Army have a formal diagnosis of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).*

*(2) If an individual serving in the Army presents with symptoms of ADHD what is the process from there?*

*(3) In the past 12 months has the Army funded or undertaken themselves (perhaps within DCMH) any assessments for ADHD?*

*(4) If the answer to (3) is yes. Please can you tell me how many were undertaken in the past year?*

*(5) Further to (4) If Available, the information too for the prior 3 years?*

*(6) Does the Army accept applicants with a diagnosis of ADHD?*

*(7) Further to (6) Does the Army accept applicants with a diagnosis of ADHD and taking medication?*

*(8) Further to (6) and (7) if yes to either answer. Are there any restrictions for those applicants?*

*(9) If a service person is diagnosed with ADHD are they able to continue to serve?*

*(10) Further to question (4) Of those people [assessed in the last year] how many were medically discharged within 12 months of receiving an ADHD diagnosis."*

*(11) Does having an ADHD diagnosis prevent you from applying for some roles within the Army, and if yes, which roles?'*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held and can be found attached at Annex A.

Under Section 21 (Accessible by other means of the Act you may find it helpful to note information relating to questions 2, 6, 7, 8 and 10 can be found in Joint Service Policy (JSP) 950 at the following address:

[Latest edition of JSP 950 - a Freedom of Information request to Ministry of Defence - WhatDoTheyKnow](#)

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Workforce 2

Army Policy & Secretariat

## **Annex A to FOI2023/05239**

*(1) How many people currently serving within the Army have a formal diagnosis of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).*

As at 1 March 2023, there were **1,240** serving Army personnel who had a Read code for a formal diagnosis of ADHD in their medical record.

*(3) In the past 12 months has the Army funded or undertaken themselves (perhaps within DCMH) any assessments for ADHD?*

In the past 12 months ADHD assessments would have been carried out at a DCMH.

*(4) If the answer to (3) is yes. Please can you tell me how many were undertaken in the past year?*

Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 (latest data available), **29** Army personnel had a first appointment at a DCMH for ADHD.

*(5) Further to (4) If Available, the information too for the prior 3 years?*

Between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2023, **74** Army personnel had a first appointment at a DCMH for ADHD.

*(10) Further to question (4) Of those people [assessed in the last year] how many were medically discharged within 12 months of receiving an ADHD diagnosis."*

Of the **74** Army personnel who had a first appointment at a DCMH for ADHD between April 2020 and March 2023, **fewer than five** were subsequently medically discharged within a year of their first appointment. Medical discharges are presented for regular personnel only.

Please note, ADHD may not have been listed as a principal or contributory cause of the subsequent medical discharge and the discharge may have been for an unrelated medical condition