

RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND MINISTER
FOR DEFENCE PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Ref: 3427

27 February 2022

Dear Maria

I undertook to write to you in response to your Parliamentary Questions of 24th November 2023:

The estimated value of how much Ministry of Defence had lost to fraud in each year since 2010. (3427)

The average length of time for an investigation by Fraud Defence to be completed was in (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021, (d) 2022 and (e) 2023 to 23 November 2023. (3437)

Detected fraud, bribery and corruption cases are recorded centrally in Defence by the Fraud Defence team. Known, or detected, fraud is set out in the table below. Fraud values are calculated at the time of detection, identified through the life of an investigation, or estimated where the values are unclear.

Financial Year	Total Detected fraud value
2010/2011	£0.24m
2011/2012	£0.33m
2012/2013	£1.35m
2013/2014	£0.43m
2014/2015	£284.22m
2015/2016	£1.52m
2016/2017	£0.68m
2017/2018	£2.96m
2018/2019	£22.52m
2019/2020	£52.97m
2020/2021	£57.27m
2021/2022	£147.24m
2022/2023	£131.77m
2023/2024	£224.05m

Rt Hon Maria Eagle MP
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Fraud Defence is the central counter fraud team within Defence and operates an independent investigation team. Fraud Defence investigates instances of fraud alongside other investigating bodies in the department - with the majority of cases referred to MOD business areas to investigate on a disciplinary basis or Defence Policing for criminal investigation. The length of time to closure for Fraud Defence investigations includes time taken by the relevant business area completing their disciplinary process under the HR misconduct process. Cases are frequently cross referred between Fraud Defence and the police, increasing the resolution time.

The following table provides the average length time to close cases since 2019:

Year	Average Length to close (in calendar days)
2019	519
2020	1043
2021	919
2022	403
2023	742

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

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