

Proposed cessation of the “Quarterly Afghanistan UK Patient Treatment Statistics: RCDM and DMRC Headley Court” Official Statistic

SUMMARY

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) currently publishes the Afghanistan UK Patient Treatment Statistics: RCDM and DMRC Headley Court on a quarterly basis. We are now seeking external users' views on ceasing this publication

BACKGROUND

The 'Quarterly Afghanistan UK Patient Treatment Statistics: RCDM and DMRC Headley Court' Official Statistic provides statistical information on United Kingdom (UK) Armed Forces and Civilian personnel who have returned to the UK from Op HERRICK and Op TORAL as a result of an injury or illness, who have been treated at the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine (RCDM) and/or the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC).

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGE

Defence Statistics is proposing the cessation of this Official Statistic as:

- a. Following decreased operational activity, the numbers of patients receiving treatment at RCDM and/or DMRC as a result of injuries or illnesses sustained in Operations in Afghanistan have fallen dramatically. There has been a decrease of 85% in Afghanistan patient numbers from 2011/12 (n = 994) to 2015/16 (n = 150). In the latest quarter (1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016) 51 Afghanistan patients were treated at RCDM and/or DMRC.
- b. Interest in these quarterly publications has diminished; this is evidenced by the number of web hits on the publication falling from 1,374 in 2014/15 to 510 in 2015/16. Furthermore, there have been no Freedom of Information requests, Parliamentary Questions or internal MOD requests for information on Afghanistan patients treated at RCDM and/or DMRC in the last two years.

Please note that the MOD will continue to monitor the number of UK Armed Forces and Civilian personnel in Afghanistan, who have received treatment at RCDM and/or DMRC.

TIMINGS

This consultation will run for **four weeks**, from **21 April to 19 May**. This consultation complies with the Government's Code of Practice on Consultations.

As long as there are no objections during the consultation period, it is proposed that the April 2017 bulletin will be the final edition produced.

RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

Considering the reasons for the proposed changes, we now invite the feedback of our external data users and are keen to know what impact the cessation of this publication will have on you.

Ways to respond

If you have any comments on the proposed changes please send:

By email to: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk

By post to:

Defence Statistics (Health)
Ministry of Defence

Oak 0 West, #6028
Abbey Wood North
Bristol
BS34 8JH

When sending your comments please include contact details (your name and either e mail address, postal address or telephone number) so that we can follow up if clarification is needed.