



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI2018/12477 RFI:323/18

Date: 6 November 2018

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: ANIMALS EUTHANIZED

I refer to your e-mail of 8 October 2018, which was acknowledged on the 10 October 2018.

We are treating your e-mail as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your e-mail you requested the following information:

“Please could you provide me with the data for how many animals have been euthanized by your force since 2016, please could you also specify the type of animal and the reason.”

A search for information has now been completed by the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) and I can confirm that we do hold information in scope of your request.

The only animals used by the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) are dogs. The dogs used by the MDP are provided by the Defence Animal Training Regiment (DATR) and are trained to national police standards. At the end of their working lives our dogs are returned to the DATR who make every endeavour to rehome. Any decision to euthanize a dog used by the MDP is therefore made by the DATR who have provided the following information:

- 10 dogs have been euthanized since January 2016 due to veterinary conditions that were causing unnecessary suffering.
- 5 dogs have been euthanized since January 2016 as they were assessed as presenting an unacceptable risk to public safety.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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.gov.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

MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office