



Ministry
of Defence

de&s

LLB(Hons)
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

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Defence Equipment & Support
Maple 0a # 2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Via:

20th February 2019 Our Ref: FOI2019/00430

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 7th January 2019 requesting the following information:

1. *How many Land Rover Wolf vehicles were in service in 2017-18?*
2. *How many were fully operational?*
3. *How many Ford vehicles have been hired by the MoD?*
4. *What was the cost of hiring the Ford vehicles?*

This was clarified on 9th January 2019 as follows:

1. *With regards to question 1. above, could you give me the information for the time period January to December 2018?*
2. *With regards to question 1. and 2. above, the date this is required for is the end of December 2018.*
3. *"Fully operational" is defined as the number of vehicles off the road unable to be driven i.e. not for service.*
4. *Ford vehicles hired by MOD outside normal white fleet with "white fleet" being defined as non-combat specific vehicles.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemption provided for at section 26 (Defence) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 26 is a qualified exemption and subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 26(1)(b) has been applied to some of the information because it contains details which are operationally sensitive and would prejudice the capability and effectiveness of our armed forces. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that, overall, the public interest is best served in not releasing any details concerning operational capability that would prejudice the security of UK personnel and which would provide tactical advantage to our enemies. For these reasons I have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

The responses to your questions are as follows:

1. On 1st January 2018 there were between 8,214 and 8,262 Land Rover (HS) in service. On 31st December 2018 there were 8,214 Land Rover (HS) in service (see Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) below).
2. This information has been withheld under s26 (Defence).
3. The MOD has not hired any Ford vehicles outside the normal white fleet.
4. No Ford vehicles were hired and, therefore, there was no cost to the MOD.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note WOLF was a project name and we have therefore interpreted "Land Rover Wolf" as Land Rover (High Specific (HS)). This fleet consists of the Truck Utility Light, Truck Utility Medium and Battlefield Ambulance variants.

All vehicles that had a status of "live" in 2018 have been counted. Between the 1st January and 31st December 2018, 44 vehicles were marked as "awaiting disposal". Some of these may have been carried over from 2017 and, likewise, some may have been disposed of in 2019 or still await disposal. A further four vehicles were marked as "disposed". The highest figure I have given in the response therefore represents the maximum holding including the 48 vehicles disposed of or awaiting disposal.

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,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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