



Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

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



Via:

17th February 2020 Our Ref: FOI2020/01691

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 4th February 2020 requesting the following information:

As stated in FOI request (FOI2015/03633).

4,015 L98A1 Cadet rifles are being kept in storage, as these are Section 1 Firearms under UK Law (due to the fact they are not semi-auto).

Where / Who would a UK citizen with a firearms license contact to acquire one of these rifles?

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 information in scope of your request is held.

It is Government policy that small arms which are declared surplus by the MOD, other than automatic weapons which are routinely destroyed, are made available only to Governments, for use by acceptable military, paramilitary and police organisations, either directly or through duly licensed entities authorised to procure weapons. The MOD does not sell surplus weapons in the commercial market place. Any small arms not sold to other Governments are destroyed in line with tightly controlled procedures and sold as scrap metal. This activity is undertaken by the MOD's Defence Equipment Sales Authority (DESA).

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,

DES SEC Pol Sec Land Equipment