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Our ref: FOI 2014/08446

Your ref:

21 January 2015

Dear _____

Thank you for your email of 18 December 2014 requesting the following information:

"to request the disclosure of data held which concerns the use of animals in research by [Institution] ("The Public Authority"). For the avoidance of doubt the term 'animal research' is defined as regulated procedures governed by the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 ("ASPA") and EU Directive 2010/63/EU ("The EU Directive").

The Information I wish to request is as follows:

1. By species, how many animals were used in experiments by the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) in 2013?

I must stress that I do not seek data which identifies those under the institution's employ and agree for such information to be redacted within reason".

We are 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 and we can confirm that all of the information in scope of your request is held.

Dstl returns the numbers of procedures involving animals to the Home Office on an annual basis in accordance with UK legislation. Presented below are the details of the Annual Dstl Returns to the Home Office for calendar year 2013, as requested.

Year 2013							
Animal Species (Type)	Mice	Rats	Guinea-Pigs	Pigs	Marmosets	Rabbits	Total
Number	5641	68	447	108	193	4	6461

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Dstl Secretariat