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Our ref: FOI 2015/00102  
Your ref:

02 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5 January 2015 requesting the following information:

How many experiments were conducted on live animals at Porton Down in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014?

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 some of the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below.

Dstl's purpose is to maximise the impact of science and technology for the defence and security of the UK. As part of this, we develop and create battle-winning technology and protection equipment for UK Forces and Government. Our role in helping to protect the UK and its Armed Forces requires us to answer questions and develop solutions to problems that cannot currently be addressed without the use of animals in research.

Dstl Porton Down operates in accordance with the requirements of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act (ASPA) 1986 and fully embraces the principles of the 3R's (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement).

In accordance with the FOI Act exemption s21 Information accessible to applicant by other means has been applied.

However, in accordance with s16 Duty to provide advice and assistance, the information that you have requested for calendar years 2010 to 2013 has already been placed in the public domain as a response to a Parliamentary Question on 22 July 2014, which can be found in Hansard at

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm140722/text/140722w0001.htm#14072281000057>

Since the Home Office are still in the process of compiling and ratifying the overall animal usage figures for calendar year 2014 and these are not yet published, we cannot provide you with our animal use figures for 2014 at this time.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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