



Ministry  
of Defence

Secretariat  
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Ref. FOI 2016/03564

8 April 2016

Dear

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2016 requesting the following information:

*"I have today received the answer to my FOI request in which it is confirmed that in the period from 1 December to 18 February 2016 your office has been advised of one "accidental kill" of a fox by the RA Hunt.*

*May I give you some background to the reason to my inquiry. On mid February I was contacted by a member of the public who had seen the RA Hunt at a meet near The Bustard. Late in the day, he witnessed two hunt vehicles parked on a track and saw supporters who had been following the hunt carrying spades and acting suspiciously.*

*After they left the area he checked the area and found a dead fox. The fox was still warm and had obvious head injuries.*

*Can you please confirm that the reported case of a fox being "accidentally killed" by the RA is likely to relate to this incident can you also clarify the circumstances under which the fox referred to in the report was "accidentally killed."*

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 all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found enclosed at annex A, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at sections 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat

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.org.uk>.

**NOTIFICATION OF MAMMAL KILL FORM****(FOR MAMMALS KILLED WHILST CARRYING OUT EXEMPT HUNTING ACTIVITIES ON MOD LAND)****SEASON 2015-2016**

This report is to be returned to:

DIO,

**within 48 hours of any kill and monthly for nil returns. These are conditions of your licence.**

<b><i>NAME OF HUNT/BEAGLE PACK</i></b>	<b><i>TITLE OF MOD LAND</i></b>
ROYAL ARTILLERY HUNT	SALISBURY PLAIN
<b><i>NAME OF MASTER</i></b>	<b><i>CONTACT NUMBER</i></b>
	Office: Home:
<b><i>Date and further Details of any mammals killed whilst carrying out exempt hunting activities, including full circumstances:</i></b>	
<p>Whilst trail hunting on Sat 2 Jan 2016 IVO Bulford Danger Area, a trail was laid towards "The Wig" (GR 184476) and hounds followed it into the wood. Upon entering the wood, a fox sprang up in front of them and bolted out of the northern end of the covert. The huntsman was some way behind them due to the thickness of the cover and by the time he got clear, hounds had run on towards Ablington Furze. Despite his best efforts, he could not catch them or stop them and they unfortunately killed the fox in the open ground IVO GR:183498 at approx 13.15 hrs.</p> <p>The mounted field and the Field Master were not present when this happened and as soon as they had caught up with the huntsman, he made a full report to the Master and hounds were taken away. No other wild animals or livestock were involved in the incident</p>	
<b><i>SIGNED (REPORTING MASTER)</i></b>	<b><i>DATE</i></b>
	4/01/16