



Ministry  
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section  
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2016-01790

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
3 March 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 9 February 2016 requesting the following information:

- 1. Is the MoD going to scrap HMS Endurance?*
- 2. Will the MoD place HMS Endurance on the open market for sale in order to obtain the maximum price possible for the public purse – whether for scrapping or preservation trust use?*
- 3. Please can you confirm that the BBC News report is correct...  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-24436594>  
... that HMS Endurance "The Ministry of Defence (MoD) said the Portsmouth-based ship, which was replaced by HMS Protector in 2011, would go out of service in 2015" To be clear, I am asking for confirmation that HMS Endurance will NOT be scrapped without first establishing whether there is a better offer for the vessel from other means of disposal?*
- 4. If "2" above is a positive reply, please can you advise me of the MoD protocol for disposing of this particular ship, and if possible, a Tender Pack to study in order to give consideration for the purchase of HMS Endurance.*
- 5. A copy of the Royal Navy equivalent of an MAIB report on the flooding incident that occurred aboard HMS Endurance during September 2008, and which, I understand has led to the ship being out of commission for an extended period of time?*
- 6. A copy of the General Arrangement plan of HMS Endurance?'*

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you have requested and in response to your first four questions I can inform you that in July 2015 the MOD Disposal Services Authority (DSA) invited expressions of interest for the sale of the former HMS Endurance (A171) for 'further use' or 'recycling'. The document can be viewed via this hyperlink:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sale-of-former-hms-endurance>

Following an open competition it has been decided to award a contract to a ship recycling company. The award was made because the company's bid provided the best combination of technical capability and financial return to the MOD.

I can confirm that the information you have requested at questions 5 and 6 is available on the MOD Website via these hyperlinks:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/357003/2014\\_04534\\_Disposal\\_of\\_HMS\\_Endurance.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/357003/2014_04534_Disposal_of_HMS_Endurance.pdf)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/357017/2014\\_04534\\_McLean\\_HMS\\_Endurance\\_Plans.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/357017/2014_04534_McLean_HMS_Endurance_Plans.pdf)

The Ministry of Defence is permitted to withhold information where an exemption is considered justifiable. As the information you requested is already available to the public we have assessed that your request falls under the absolute exemption at section 21 – Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means – of the Act. Consequently, we are not obliged to provide you with a copy of the information.

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>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section