



Ministry of Defence

Headquarters Surgeon General Secretariat
6th Floor Zone E
Ministry of Defence
Main Building, Whitehall
LONDON, SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2015/00098

Email: SGSecFin-SecGpMailbox@mod.uk

23 January 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5 January, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act as follows:

- ***I wish to know how many letters/emails have been sent by MPs to Ministers or Personnel at the MoD, questioning the practice of medical training techniques on live animals. Please date this back to 2005 where possible.***

MPs regularly receive letters from constituents who are concerned about matters of Government policy. Where an issue is the responsibility of a particular Government department, the MP may forward the letter to a Minister in that department for comment as appropriate. The Minister's response will then be forwarded back to the constituent.

The Ministry of Defence currently retains a record of such routine Ministerial correspondence back to 2009. The number of items of correspondence forwarded from constituency MPs, and to which MOD Ministers have replied, on the subject of medical training techniques using live animals is as follows:

2009 – Nil
2010 – Nil
2011 – Nil
2012 – 5
2013 – 3
2014 - 22
2015 – Nil (to date)

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,

Headquarters Surgeon General Secretariat