



# Ministry of Defence

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15 December 2016

Ref. FOI2016/11014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 15 November 2016 requesting the following information:

*"My inquiry is about hunting, shooting and other field sports and the extent to which such activities are supported by the military.*

*I understand that the Army operates a grouse shoot on its Warcop tank training ground. This includes employing a gamekeeper. I also understand that the Royal Artillery operates what used to be a fox hunt involving horses and hounds.*

- Could you let me have a list of all the hunts, shoots and other field sport activities supported by the MoD or involving MoD personnel, land or facilities?*
- There are obvious benefits in such activities such as encouraging self-reliance and marksmanship, Could you explain the MoD policy in these areas?*
- Roughly how many grouse or other game birds were killed in the last year at Warcop and other army shoots?*
- How many foxes or other animals have been killed on MoD or military land in the last five years?"*

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

The information you have requested for items one and part of three can be found enclosed at annex A.

The information you have requested for item two is information not held. There is no policy encouraging MOD personnel to join Shoots or Hunts.

Item 4 - How many foxes or other animals have been killed on MoD or military land in the last five years?"

See annex A for details of vermin killed.

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2011/2012</b>	<b>2012/2013</b>	<b>2013/2014</b>	<b>2014/2015</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1426</b>	<b>1686</b>	<b>1392</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>1725</b>

The above figures are for deer only and include those found dead and deer vehicle collisions. There were no foxes reported killed by hunts for the last five years. This covers all MOD land that is roughly 225,000 hectares, approximately 8 times the size of Greater London.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note all hunts and shoots use MOD land only, no MOD facilities or MOD personnel on duty participate in shooting, hunting or fishing. Civilian and Military staff may participate in these activities in their own time.

The Warcop Grouse Shoot and Royal Artillery Hunt, despite the military names and connections are open to the general public and are not exclusively for the military.

Any Staff employed as Gamekeepers at Warcop are not active military personnel or funded by MOD.

Figures in annex A do not include control of rodent infestations within buildings.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Zone N, 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,

DIO Secretariat

	Number of Game & Wildfowl Birds Shot Season 2015/16	animals shot 15/16 season classified as vermin (majority Rabbits but also Foxes, Squirrels & Corvids)
Shooting and Fishing Syndicates on the MOD Estate		
SD Trg Scotland- The Army Commanders Shoot	375	NR
SD Trg North - Otterburn Shooting Club	350	
SD Trg North - Warcop shoot	313	
SD Trg North Catterick Garrison Gun Club Shoot		
SD Trg North Catterick Training Area Shoot	1146	
SD Trg North-Leconfield Rough Shooting Club	127	
SD Trg North Ripon Station Shoot	405	
SD Trg North Catterick Garrison Fishing Club		
SD Trg Wales & West -HQ 5 Division Shoot (Nescliff )	641	
SD Trg Wales and West_ The Castlemartin Shoot	69	
SD Trg South East - Minley Shoot		
SD Trg South East- Bordon Shoot		
SD Trg South East - Bramley Shoot		
SD trig South East Barton Stacey Shoot		
SD trig SE Aldershot Garrison Angling Club (Hawley Lake and Henley Park Lake )		
SD Trg South East -Bourley Fly Fishing Club		
SD Trg South East _ Barton Stacey Fishing Club		
SD Trg South West - The School of Infantry Shoot (Salisbury Plain )	570	25
SD trig South West - Larkhill Shoot (Salisbury Plain )		
SD Trg South West -Royal School of Artillery Shoot ( Salisbury Plain)		
SD Trg South West -Netheravon Shoot (Salisbury Plain)	118	780
SD Trg South West - Durrington Shoot 9Salisbury Plain)		
SD Trg South West -Upavon Shoot (Salisbury Plain)		
SD Trg South West -The Trenchard Shoot (Salisbury Plain)		
SD Trg South West - The Bulford and Tidworth Garrison Shoot (Salisbury Plain)		
SD trig South West -Services Dry Fly Fishing Association (Salisbury Plain )		
SD Trg South West - Bovington Garrison Game Fishing Club		
SD Trg South West -Bovington and Lulworth Shoot (Salisbury Plain)		

SD TRG East - Colchester Garrison Shoot	512	706
SD Trig East -Beckingham Services Shoot	406	207
SD Trg South West Bovington Garrison Fishing Club		
SD Trig East Yardley Chase Services Shoot	410	1708
SD Trg East -STANTA Shooting Association	1617	2154
SD Trg East- Stanta Fishing Association		
SD trig South East -The Dover/(No Suggestions) Garrison Shoot		
Culdrose Sporting Gun Club	22	12
ST Mawgan Rough Shooting Club	159	2464
HMS HERON Sporting Gun Club	93	3
Thorney Istand Shoot	459	21
RAF Barham Shoot		3
RAF Honnington Shoot	74	212
RAF Barkston Hall Shoot		27
RAF Synerston	3	23
RAF Cranwell Shoot	28	197
RAF Chicksands Shoot	206	10
RAF Wyton Shoot	12	27
Yeovilton Shoot		
South Dorset Hunt		
Royal Artillery Hunt		
South West Wiltshire Hunt		
Tedworth Hunt		
Wilts & Infantry Beagles Hunt		
Palmer Marlborough Beagle Hunt		