



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2018/01039/18/05

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

10 September 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 19 January in which you requested the following information:

- '1 In relation to the 2017 calendar year please state (a) the number of horses euthanised by the MoD and (b) the number re-homed by the MoD.*
- 2. In relation to the 2017 calendar year please state (a) the number of military dogs euthanised by the MoD and (b) the number re-homed by the MoD.*
- 3. For all the horses euthanised please state the name of the horse, the date it was euthanised, and the medical reason for euthanasia. Please provide jpeg computer images if you have them of the three most recently euthanised horses.*
- 4. For all the military dogs euthanised please state the name of the dog and the date it was euthanised, its breed if recorded and whether it was an explosives detection dog and the medical reason for euthanasia. Please provide jpeg computer images if you have them of the three most recently euthanised dogs.'*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held and can be found below and attached. The MOD does not hold JPEG images of the last three Military Working Dogs and the last three Military Working Horses euthanised.

For 2017, I can confirm that 121 Military Working Dogs were rehomed and 41 were euthanised. In the same year, 52 Military Working Horses were rehomed and 14 were euthanised.

Military Working Animals provide an invaluable service to our troops, and every effort is made to rehome them at the end of their service life. Decisions are taken following an extensive assessment of the animals and any potential new home. Sadly, there are some occasions where it is not possible to rehome an animal safely, for example when the animal poses a risk to public safety. In such cases decisions are taken following a full assessment by military veterinarians and dog behaviourist experts.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or

the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat

MWD Euthanased in Service 2017

Serial	Date Cast	Name	Explosive / Detection	Reason
1	19-Jan-17	Maaike	No	Dangerous Temperament
2	31-Jan-17	Harry	No	Bilateral Hindlimb Paresis
3	10-Feb-17	Martyn	Yes	Died following Thoracotomy for lung lobectomy to remove infected middle lung lobes
4	15-Mar-17	En	No	Welfare
5	15-Mar-17	Amy	No	Welfare
6	15-Mar-17	WC	Yes	Welfare
7	20-Apr-17	Buck	No	Welfare
8	10-Apr-17	Tjakke	Yes	Multiple Malignant Tumours
9	31-Jan-17	Garm	No	Liver Failure/Cancer
10	10-Mar-17	Bobby	No	Dangerous Temperament
11	22-Apr-17	Chico	No	Heavy bleeding/Infected anal furniculous
12	6-Apr-17	Bony	No	Welfare
13	31-Mar-17	Dzek	No	Welfare
14	31-Mar-17	Boris	No	Dangerous Temperament
15	26-May-17	Bert	No	Dangerous Temperament
16	31-May-17	Alfred	No	Welfare
17	28-May-17	Odin	No	Rapid Onset Degenerative Myelopathy
18	15-Jun-17	Tony	No	Degenerative Joint Disease
19	9-May-17	Cassie	No	Degenerative Joint Disease
20	1-Jun-17	Kin	No	Degenerative Joint Disease
21	1-Jun-17	Rony	No	Degenerative Joint Disease
22	27-Jun-17	Carlos	No	Spinal Disease
23	17-May-17	Silvia	No	Degenerative Joint Diseases
24	6-Jul-17	Harvey	No	Splenic Neoplasia
25	24-Jul-17	Skype	No	Secondary Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation
26	7-Jul-17	Womble	No	Suspected Haemangiosarcoma

27	28-Jul-17	Niro	No	Kidney Disease, Skin Disease, Degenerative Joint Disease
28	20-Jul-17	Cheyenne	No	Welfare
29	4-Aug-17	Endy	No	Dangerous Temperament
30	17-Mar-17	DAR	No	Unremitting Osteo Arthritis Pain
31	19-Sep-17	Saxon	No	Welfare
32	19-Jul-17	Enesto	No	Spinal Disease
33	11-Jul-17	JoJo	No	Sacral Disease Unremitting Pain
34	30-Aug-17	Baco	No	Dangerous Temperament
35	10-Aug-17	Janus	No	Welfare
36	25-May-17	Tizer	No	Chronic Recurrent Lameness
37	27-Sep-17	Jimy	No	Welfare
38	14-Nov-17	Cosmo	No	Chronic Soft Tissue Issue
39	14-Nov-17	Nero	No	Degenerative Joint Disease
40	5-Dec-17	Zinka	No	Spinal Disease
41	18-Dec-17	Turki	No	Dangerous Temperament
42	19-Dec-17	Doc	No	Severe non weight bearing lameness non-responsive to medication

Please note that the data provided is based upon Defence Animal Training Regiment records; the 'reason' column represents a clerical summary of expert veterinary assessments made in each case for management information purposes.

Military Working Horses Euthanised in Service 2017

Serial	Date Cast	Name	Reason
1	7-Feb-17	Italy	Fractured pelvis
2	15-Feb-17	Noah	Dangerous Temperament
3	8-Mar-17	Boddington	Scarcoids
4	7-Apr-17	Cambrai	Colic
5	1-May-17	Gustavus James	Veterinary neurological & non response to medication
6	16-May-17	Kinsman	Untreatable lameness
7	11-Jul-17	Donegal	Laminitis and pedal bone rotation
8	11-Jul-17	RMT	Dangerous Temperament
9	13-Jul-17	RMT	Dangerous Temperament
10	13-Jul-17	RMT	Dangerous Temperament
11	13-Jul-17	Herrick	Did not recover after surgery
12	14-Aug-17	Paddy	Concussive laminitis,P3 rotated and dropped
13	12-Sep-17	Embargo	Complications post surgery,for epiploic entrapment
14	21-Dec-17	Horatio	Bilateral fore limb lamenesss,Cellultis & nonhealing infection

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