



# Ministry of Defence

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
8 May 2018

Ref. FOI 2018/04825

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 7 April 2018 requesting the following information:

- 1. When did the MoD (or its predecessor) purchase the building of Carshope & the immediately surrounding land (e.g Whar Moor/Carshope Plantation), for what purposes and under what powers?*
- 2. Please confirm that the MoD still owns the building & the surrounding land and that the building is currently used as a troop shelter.*
- 3. Who did the MoD purchase the building from and do your records indicate when this building was first erected? Do your records indicate the existence of a previous building (cottage?) and if so when was this replaced with the present building?*
- 4. For what purpose was the building used immediately prior to purchase by the MoD, when was it last lived in (prior to it being used as a troop shelter) and by whom?*
- 5. Do your records list any earlier tenants, in particular [REDACTED]? If so, between which dates did he occupy the building?*
- 6. Do you have any other information appertaining to the building & the former use thereof which might be useful/interesting in my research?*

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 information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found enclosed, below and at annex A.

- 1) The land was purchased for military training on 31 March 1911. The information you have requested concerning what powers the MOD purchased the building of Carshope is not held.
- 2) The MOD owns the Carshope building and the adjoining land.
- 3) The property was purchased from [REDACTED]. The information you have requested concerning when the building was first erected and the existence of previous buildings is not held.
- 4) The answer to question 4 can be found at annex A.
- 5) Information not held.
- 6) The answer to question 6 can be found at annex A.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made in writing 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,

DIO Secretariat



## Carshope

Shepherds have always struggled to make a living on Carshope. Lambs born in the Spring were often dying by Autumn. Although there was plenty of grass for the ewes to eat, their milk lacked Vitamin B12, which lambs need in order to thrive. The problem was due to cobalt deficiency in the soil, which resulted in the sheep being unable to benefit from the grass and pining away, literally starving to death. Nowadays this deficiency, which is worldwide, can be treated with a top dressing of cobalt salt but in earlier times the cause of 'pine' was unknown so there was no way of putting things right. By the mid 20th century, Carshope had such a bad name for cobalt deficiency that no one would take the tenancy, so the farm was abandoned in the 1950s, the land was planted with conifers and the house was recycled as a troop shelter.

PHOTO: MARGIE B. KEESMAN ARCHIVE

