



Ministry  
of Defence

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12 August 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received on 16 July 2019 requesting the following information:

[<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/causes-of-deaths-that-occurred-among-the-uk-veterans-of-the-199091-gulf-conflict> – Causes of death that occurred among the UK veterans of the 1990/91 Gulf conflict]

The above report has not been updated since 2016. Can you please advise if the relevant data has *been collated. Please provide an updated report up to 31 December 2018*”

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

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our recorded information, I have established that the information you requested is not held by the Ministry of Defence.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it useful to note:

Cause of death information for the Gulf and Era cohorts within the Gulf Mortality Study is provided to the MOD by NHS Digital (for England) and the National Records of Scotland (NRS). The latest deaths data received by the MOD are as at 31 December 2015. The MOD is currently in the process of reinstating the transfer of death information from NHS Digital and the NRS for the cohorts.

The MOD will publish an update once the data flows have been re-established. The next scheduled report will include data up to the latest full calendar year. The MOD will also inform the requestor directly once a confirmed publication date has been set, and will announce the confirmed publication date on the UK Government's Statistics Release Calendar:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements>

The Gulf 1 mortality study compares the mortality rates of 53,409 UK Armed Forces personnel that deployed to the 1990/91 Gulf Conflict to those of a comparison group, the Era cohort. The Era cohort consists of 53,143 UK Armed Forces personnel of similar age, gender, Service, regular/reservist status and rank who were in Service on 1 January 1991 but did not deploy to the Gulf. The findings include deaths that occurred to personnel whilst in service and deaths that occurred after personnel had left the UK Armed Forces.

The latest publication and further information on the study can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/causes-of-deaths-that-occurred-among-the-uk-veterans-of-the-199091-gulf-conflict>.

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

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, 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 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://ico.org.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics Health