



Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk



Defence Equipment & Support
Maple 0a # 2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Via: [REDACTED]

13 November 2019 Our Reference: FOI2019/12081

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 October 2019 requesting the following information:

Please could you share with me the most recent operating manual for the military Land Rover Wolf 90 Defender?

Please let me know if you need any further details and many thanks for your help.

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 and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found attached, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of qualified exemptions provided for at sections 26 (Defence) and 38 (Health and Safety) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

Section 26 and 38 are qualified exemptions and are subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 38 has been applied because some of the information has the potential to adversely affect the physical and/or mental health of UK personnel as well as endanger the safety of an individual by exposing vulnerabilities in the levels of protection. The balance of the public interest test concluded that, whilst release would increase public understanding and confidence, the balance of the public interest lay in withholding this information. I have considered it necessary to apply the higher level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

Section 26(1)(b) has been applied to some of the information because it contains details which are operationally sensitive in that they contribute to Counter-Improvised Explosive Device tactics and would prejudice the capability and effectiveness of our armed forces. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that, overall, the public interest is best served in not releasing any details that would prejudice the security of UK personnel and which would provide tactical advantage to our enemies. For these reasons I have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

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). 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,

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