



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence Equipment and Support  
Secretariat Logistics  
Delivery & Support Enablers  
Building C16, C Site  
Ministry of Defence  
Ploughley Road, Lower  
Arcott  
Bicester OX25 2LD



Email: [DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk)

[REDACTED]

Our Reference:  
FOI2020/06049  
Date:  
11 June 2020

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 23 May 2020 requesting the following information:

***"It has been highlighted in previous requests that the MOD is allowed to sell spares for vehicles however " a greater number of spare parts are now being disposed as waste to ensure that the UK MOD is protected against environmental, safety and security risks." (presumably through EMR).***

***It seems wasteful for the MOD to be sending these spare parts for disposal with such a large Ex Military vehicle market in the UK currently. A lot of these spares are no longer in manufacture and are required to keep vehicles in serviceable condition.***

***I understand some parts cannot be sold for security reasons however some items that have reportedly been scrapped include brand new Land Rover Chassis and Brand new in the pack camouflage netting.***

***Previously these spares were sold off through Witham SV, however this seems to have changed when the vehicle disposal contract shifted to Brightwells, was this related to the change in contract (lower interest in spares from Brightwells) or was this linked to an MOD change in policy?***

***If so, will we see vehicle spares being sold again in the future or will the MOD continue this wasteful process?***

***Surely the return from the sales of vehicle spares, however small, would be beneficial to the MOD at this time of budgetary constraint?"***

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 below.

The Defence Equipment Sales Authority (DESA) is the MOD department responsible for sale and disposal of surplus and obsolete equipment. The DESA uses a variety of sales routes, however, the majority of the sales are made through specialist marketing contractors, including Brightwells and previously Withams. Irrespective of the sales route the DESA is tasked with achieving the best return for the taxpayer from the disposal of publicly-funded materiel.

The DESA also has to consider any sales restrictions, such as:

- Foreign export controlled assets.
- UK Security controlled assets where mandated by the asset owner.
- Damaged or used parts.
- Sensitive disposals, e.g. loss of life, major life changing injuries or as mandated by the asset owner.
- Intellectual Property Rights.
- Environmental Impact.

If any of these restrictions apply it may be necessary to scrap the items rather than sell. The list of restrictions is not exhaustive and is subject to change at any time.

Vehicle spares may be sold through Brightwells or a relevant DESA contractor, but they must be in accordance with the above restrictions.

The way in which DESA collates data in respect of scrap does not easily allow for identification of specific items, for example the records may simply state 6-tonnes scrap metal; without details of the NATO Stock Number it is not possible to comment on the Land Rover chassis and the camouflage net you refer to.

The DESA continues to work closely with all its contractors to ensure the best possible financial return.

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 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

