



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Statistics Health
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Ref: FOI 2020/13645

12 January 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email dated 9 December 2020 requesting the following information:

"I've had some discussions with local councillors and politicians about a memorial for service people that lost their life in the Brecon Beacons. I lost a close friend and colleague there whilst he was training for special forces selection some years ago, so it's a topic close to my heart."

To feed in to the proposal I wanted to include an accurate figure of how many service men and women have died in the Brecon Beacons whilst serving (on and off duty) in modern records (Your input on a realistic date to go back to is welcome)."

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds this information.

From 1 January 1984 (the earliest data available) to 31 December 2019 (the last full year available) **20** UK armed forces personnel have died in the area encompassed by the Brecon Beacons National park.

The figure provided is for all tri-Service regular personnel ('on' or 'off' duty) and only those reserves who died on 'on' duty since Defence Statistics Health do not receive routine notification of all 'off' duty reserve deaths.

The figure is also for all causes of death: Accidents, natural causes, assaults, coroner confirmed suicide or open verdicts and cause not known.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) please note:

The location of death has been defined as any death which occurred within the area denoted on the official Brecon Beacons national park map available at:

<https://www.breconbeacons.org/>

Defence Statistics Health produce an annual National Statistic on deaths in the UK armed forces which is released at the end of March each year.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-deaths-in-service-statistics-index>

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering deaths in the UK armed forces and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: Analysis-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk.

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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