



Ministry  
of Defence

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 11 June in which you requested the following information:

*details of the number of serving soldiers who died while serving at Princess Royal Barracks in Deepcut Surrey. I would like details of all deaths involving accidents, suicides and open verdicts, etc from 1994 to date. I would like the names of the individuals who died, their rank, age and date of death.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and has been provided at Annex A. Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance), I would refer you to the explanatory notes, particularly 1 and 2, which explain the search criteria we used to identify these individuals.

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,

[REDACTED]  
Army Policy & Secretariat

**Annex A: UK Regular Army personnel deaths while serving at Princess Royal Barracks in Deepcut Surrey 1 January 1994 – 30 June 2021**

1. Please note that the table below gives the details of personnel who were **servicing** at Princess Royal Barracks in Deepcut at the time of their death, as per the request. Their death may not necessarily have been at Deepcut. The number of deaths in the table below will therefore differ to previous FOI responses which have asked for details of those who died **at** Princess Royal Barracks in Deepcut.
2. Defence Statistics Health have used the Defence Unit Identification Number (UIN) system and SIMS (SLA and UIN Interim Management System) to identify units based at Princess Royal Barracks in Deepcut between 1994 and 2021, a total of 58 UINs. These were used to form the search criteria to identify individuals who died while serving in one of these units, during the timeframe that the unit in question was based at Deepcut.

Name	Rank	Date of death	Age at death	Cause of death
Robin Flatt	Warrant Officer Class 1	12/11/1994	39	Cancers
Shaun Benton	Private	09/06/1995	20	Suicide
Mark Davies	Private	04/08/1995	19	Land Transport Accident
Cheryl James	Private	27/11/1995	18	Suicide
Kirsty Smith	Private	24/03/1997	23	Land Transport Accident
Malcolm Buchanan	Major	09/02/1998	43	Other accident
Tony Davies	Private	17/08/1998	18	Land Transport Accident
Thomas Gardiner	Private	14/09/1999	17	Land Transport Accident
Adrian Smith	Warrant Officer Class 1	08/11/1999	43	Diseases of the circulatory system
Carl Johnson	Private	19/11/1999	17	Other accident
Bryan Batey	Private	05/01/2000	20	Land Transport Accident
Anthony Bartlett	Private	16/07/2001	26	Other accident
Geoff Gray	Private	17/09/2001	17	Suicide
James Collinson	Private	23/03/2002	17	Suicide
David Shipley	Private	25/06/2002	20	Other accident
Mario Clarke	Private	26/12/2002	25	Other violent
Steven Hynes	Staff Sergeant	13/03/2009	29	Cancers
Matt Brooks	Private	18/05/2010	18	Other violent
Premraj Rai	Private	13/04/2012	43	Cancers
David Wilson	Sergeant	08/09/2013	41	Diseases of the circulatory system
Hazel Fox	Private	26/02/2016	20	Land Transport Accident

Source: Defence Statistics Health

3. All deaths are cause coded to the International Classification of Diseases 10th edition (ICD-10) which is produced by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Information held in death certificates is analysed and assigned the appropriate ICD code. Deaths included as suicides meet the National Statistics definition of Suicide and these may be a suicide, open verdict or narrative verdict conclusion from the Coroner.
4. National Stats categories have been used above for 'Other Accident' and 'Other Violent'. 'Other accident' deaths include to all accidental deaths excluding deaths as a result of Land Transport Accidents. This includes deaths as a result of falls, drowning and accidental poisoning. 'Other Violent' deaths include assaults and excludes deaths as a result of hostile action.
5. Defence Statistics Health compiles the Department's authoritative deaths database for all UK Armed Forces personnel who died whilst in Service going back to 1984. Information is compiled from several internal and external sources from which we release several internal analyses and external National Statistics Notices.
6. At the end of each calendar year, Defence Statistics cross-reference the medical information it holds against publicly available death certificate information available from NHS Digital and The General Registrars Office Scotland.
7. Defence Statistics regularly check all deaths for information on coroner's verdicts (England & Wales) and the results of investigations by the Procurator Fiscal for Scotland where possible. For Northern Ireland, Defence Statistics liaise with the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) who handle the official information on behalf of the Northern Ireland Office. There is an obligation for all accidental deaths and those resulting from violent action to be referred to these officials.