

Ref: FOI2015/08725

Navy Command FOI Section Navy Command Headquarters MP 1-4, Leach Building Whale Island PORTSMOUTH PO2 8BY

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27 October 2015

Dear

Release of Information

Thank you for your email dated 5 October 2015 which has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

Will the future Commander UK Carrier Strike Group (COMUKCSG) be the same as the current Commander Amphibious Task Group (COMUKATG) or will they be two different commanders?

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held. Your request for information seeks the answer to a specific question which under the Act we are not required to find out for you. However, under section 16 of the Act, Duty to Assist, I passed your question to the office of the Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (ACNS) who have provided the following response:

"The Armed Forces Command and Control arrangements remain subject to periodic review (including the SDSR), but following international precedence and military best practice the Royal Navy plans to retain the ability to deploy two separate 1* Commanders: a Commander Carrier Strike Group and a Commander Amphibious Task Group – both positions are currently filled by a Royal Naval Commodore (1*) and are supported by a small staff of subject matter experts."

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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail <u>CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk</u>). 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, <u>http://www.ico.org.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section