



Ministry
of Defence

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your initial email of 13 May which you clarified on 30 May, in which you asked for information about British Army structural changes relating to Army 2020 Refine (A2020(R)). I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds information about Army structural changes announced to Parliament in December 2016. This information is exempt under Section 21(1) of the Act, because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. There is a table outlining these A2020(R) unit and higher formation moves which is already in the public domain, following a Freedom of Information request in 2017. You can access this information on the Government website via the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/632554/2017-02130.pdf. The information provided is that covered by the A2020(R) Written Ministerial Statement in December and does not represent the totality of the Army. In addition, you should note that the liability data provided is for internal Army planning purposes and is subject to constant review and change. The following linked documents may also be of use:

- [Written Ministerial Statement](#) (HCWS367 dated 15 Dec 16)
- [Written Parliamentary Question - Strike Experimentation Group](#) (117878 dated 6 Dec 17)
- [House of Commons Defence Committee inquiry - SDSR 2015 and the Army](#)
- The booklet [A2020 Transforming the British Army \(2013\)](#) will be a useful baseline

I can confirm that the Department holds information about further A2020(R) changes made since the table referred to above. This information is enclosed and can be found at Annex A.

There is also information held about further planned changes, but this is exempt under Section 22(1a) of the Act because it is intended for publication at a future date. Section 22 is a qualified exemption which requires a public interest test to establish the balance on releasing or withholding the information. In this case, the arguments for release include the public interest in how the Army is structured. Arguments to withhold information include that release of such information to the public prior to our own Armed Forces, could damage internal relationships between personnel and their chains of command. Having considered the public interest the Department's decision is that, on balance, the information should be withheld.

Under Section 16 of the Act, it might be helpful if I explain that the [British Army Website](#) is continuously being updated to reflect the correct Army structure and will, in due course, also reflect the future changes referred to in this letter.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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.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,

Army Secretariat

Enclosure:

Annex A - Table showing further Army 2020 (Refine) Structural Changes since FOI2017/02130

Response to FOI2019/06365 – Army 2020 (Refine)

Unit Level Changes

Ser	Formation / Unit	Current Higher Fmns		Future Higher Fmns		Location		Comments
		2*	1*	2*	1*	Current	Future	
1	25 Engr Group	FTC	8 Engr Bde	3 (UK) Div	N/A	No change		Places all engineer close support capability within the warfighting Division. The group is already under the tactical command of GOC 3 (UK) Div.
2	Pre-Hospital Care Group	FTC	2 Mde Bde	3 (UK) Div	N/A	No change		Places all medical close support capability within the warfighting Division. Clinical pathways and assurance mechanisms unchanged.
3	1st Regiment Royal Military Police (1 RMP)	FTC	1 MP Bde	3 (UK) Div	101 Log Bde	Catterick	No change	Places close support policing capability within the warfighting Division.
4	3rd Regiment Royal Military Police (3 RMP)	FTC	1 MP Bde	3 (UK) Div	101 Log Bde	Bulford	No change	No change to the investigative independence of RMP.
5	1 Signal Regiment	FTC	11 Sig Bde	No change		Stafford	Perham Down	
6	13 Signal Regiment	N/A	N/A	FTC	1 ISR Bde	N/A	TBC	New unit.
7	14 Signal Regiment (Electronic Warfare (EW))	FTC	1 ISR Bde	No change		Brawdy	TBC	
8	15 Signal Regiment (IS)	FTC	11 Sig Bde	No change		Blandford	Perham Down	
9	30 Signal Regiment	FTC	1 Sig Bde	No change		Bramcote	Stafford	
10	1st Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (1 LANCS)	1 (UK) Div	Cyprus	No change	4 Inf Bde	Cyprus	Chester	One of the infantry battalions assigned to a pool to rotate in turn between the UK and Cyprus.
11	4th Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (4 LANCS)	1 (UK) Div	42 Inf Bde	No change	4 Inf Bde	Preston	No change	
12	2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment (2 MERCIAN)	1 (UK) Div	42 Inf Bde	No change	4 Inf Bde	Cyprus	Blackpool	One of the infantry battalions assigned to a pool to rotate in turn between the UK and Cyprus.
13	1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (1 R ANGLIAN)	1 (UK) Div	7 Inf Bde	No change	Cyprus	Woolwich	Cyprus	One of the infantry battalions assigned to a pool to rotate in turn between the UK and Cyprus.
14	2nd Battalion The Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment (2 PWRR)	1 (UK) Div	SIG	No change		Cottesmore	Aldershot	

1* Level (Brigades) Changes

Ser	Bde	Current Higher Fmns	Future Higher Fmns	Location		Comments
		2*	2*	Current	Future	
1	1st Artillery Brigade (1 Arty Bde)	FTC	3 (UK) Div	No change		
2	1st Military Police Brigade (1 MP Bde)	FTC	Regional Command	No change		

2* Level Changes

Ser	2* Formation	Current Higher Fmns	Future Higher Fmns	Location		Comments
		3*	3*	Current	Future	
1	Land Warfare Centre	N/A	Fd Army	N/A	Warminster / Upavon	On 1 Apr 18, the Army Recruiting and Training Division was disbanded. Its functions were divided between two new formations: the Land Warfare Centre (LWC) and Army Recruiting and Initial Training Command (ARITC).
2	Army Recruiting and Initial Training Command	N/A	Home Command	N/A	Upavon / Sandhurst	