



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: ArmySec/08/03/FOI2020/04623

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

18 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 17 April in which you asked for the following information:

For his 100th lap of the garden, as part of his fundraising challenge, it was widely reported that an honour guard of soldiers and officers from the Yorkshire Regiment were present.

- 1. What risk assessments and legal advice was taken by the unit and wider MOD prior to authorising this?*
- 2. What training did the personnel attending the honour guard receive to prevent possibly infecting Tom Moore and other residents at the address?*
- 3. What additional guidance was provided to the soldiers on how to prevent cross contamination from touching of items (such as the gate to gain access to the property)?*
- 4. What regulations are in place with regard to military personnel supporting charitable events in uniform?*
- 5. Were these adhered to in this instance?*
- 6. Were the soldiers on duty (and thus being paid to support a charitable event?) or were they off-duty (and thus directly breaching rules on non-essential travel)?*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. Section 1 of the FOIA gives an applicant the right to access recorded information held by public authorities at the time the request is made and does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information which is held. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

Information held by the MOD which is in scope of your request can be found below, at annex A. While you have not specifically requested names as part of your request, where they appear in the extracts of emails provided below, they have been redacted, as they fall within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA. Information requested at part four of your request, is exempt from release under Section 21 of the FOIA, because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the regulations for occasions on which wearing of uniform is forbidden can be found in The Queens Regulations for the Army, specifically part 9, paragraph J5.368, published at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-queens-regulations-for-the-army-1975-amendment-number-37>

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

Annex A – extracts from an email chain 15 April.

Some emails have been removed from the chain where they were not in scope of the request.

From: [REDACTED] (DDC-PR-Campaigns3 CCO) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk
Date: Wednesday, 15 April 2020 at 17:24
To: [REDACTED] (1YORKS-AI-BHQ-CO) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED] (DDC-PR-Campaigns3 Events CO) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Press-SO1) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (DDC-Strategy-Comms SCO Pers1) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (DDC-PR-News SO1 Army) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Congratulations guard of honour for Captain Tom Moore for tomorrow

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks so much for this, BBC Breakfast and Tom's daughter are incredibly grateful. Please see details below:

Location: PSA

Timings: 0745-1000

Detail: Tom begins at 0730 and will be doing his final lap around 0845

Contact: [REDACTED] cc'd from MOD press office will media mind [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Any questions please just shout. BBC would be grateful to speak to a couple of the guys too.

Best,

[REDACTED]



Ministry
of Defence

[REDACTED] Chief Communications Officer
Event Campaigns | Directorate of Defence
Communications
Ministry of Defence | Main Building | Whitehall | London |
SW1A 2HB
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (1YORKS-AI-BHQ-CO) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk
Sent: 15 April 2020 16:58
To: [REDACTED] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Press-SO1) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Congratulations guard of honour for Captain Tom Moore for tomorrow

[REDACTED],

Thank you for all, as we deliver this great news story. My team are stood by to assist. We will have a team of 9, including one of my Company Commanders and my RSM travelling to Bedfordshire. The RSM will ensure that all the Gov restrictions are adhered to, and be our Battalion's spokesman to the camera, as the Guard lines the garden for Capt Tom's final lap. We are travelling in three vehicles to ensure that we have minimal contact, all the soldiers are from the same grouping and we will ensure over-2m distance is maintained throughout. My RSM will police this rigorously.

Alongside the LTT that are coming, the two critical bits of information that we missing are (a) his address and (b) when you want us there. Can you help?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | **Commanding Officer | 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment**
Battlesbury Barracks | WARMINSTER | BA12 9DT | [REDACTED]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Press-SO1) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk
Sent: 15 April 2020 16:20
To: [Redacted] (DDC-PR-News SO1 Army) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Ops-SO3) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-CCO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-AH) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk (INF HQ-KINGS-YORKS-RegtAffrsC2) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (RAC HQ-Corps-Secretary) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (INF HQ-KINGS-YORKS-RegtSec) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk
Cc: [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Dig-SO3) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-SW-SMO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (DDC-PR-News Media DepHd) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (1YORKS-AI-BHQ-CO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (3UKXX-CGP-DCOS) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Congratulations guard of honour for Captain Tom Moore for tomorrow

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks so much to all for helping push this one through lots of loops. Great news, and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

I will crack on and put together some appropriate LTT and get a statement cleared.

Tomorrow morning it's likely to be a high total raised, too, which is amazing.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | **Senior Media Officer | Army Communications**
Army HQ | Marlborough Lines | Monxton Road | Andover | SP11 8HJ | [Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] (DDC-PR-News SO1 Army) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk
Sent: 15 April 2020 15:53
To: [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Press-SO1) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Ops-SO3) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk Stenning, [Redacted] [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-CCO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-AH) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (INF HQ-KINGS-YORKS-RegtAffrsC2) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (RAC HQ-Corps-Secretary); [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (INF HQ-KINGS-YORKS-RegtSec) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk
Cc: [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Dig-SO3) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-SW-SMO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (DDC-PR-News Media DepHd) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (1YORKS-AI-BHQ-CO) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk [Redacted] (3UKXX-CGP-DCOS) [Redacted]@mod.gov.uk

Subject: Congratulations guard of honour for Captain Tom Moore for tomorrow

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 April 2020 21:07

To: [REDACTED] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-AH) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (INF HQ-KINGS-YORKS-RegtAffrsC2) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-Dig-SO3) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (Army EandC-ArmyComms-CCO) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED] (RAC HQ-Corps-Secretary) [REDACTED]@mod.gov.uk [REDACTED]@ddc-mod.org

Subject: RE: Happy 100th birthday to Captain Tom Moore

[REDACTED],

Thanks for copy. We have been tracking Tom Moore closely; what an amazing hero he is. I will engage the Yorkshire Regiment team and come back to [REDACTED] asp.

Best wishes and thank you again for reaching out,

Best,

Zac

[REDACTED] Ministry of Defence | [REDACTED]
Whitehall | London SW1A 2HB | [REDACTED]

Developing Defence Policy and Strategy to drive long term planning, prioritisation, resource allocation and capability development.