



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services Secretariat
Tomlinson House
Rm 6303
Norcross
Blackpool
Lancashire
FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI/2015/05273/ [REDACTED]

E-mail: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk

[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

13 July 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 15 June from whatdotheyknow.com requesting information on resettlement figures. Your email has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You initially asked on 22 May:

'Would you please be able to supply me with the figures of personnel leaving the forces and settling/returning to the North East of England over the past 5 years.'

Following further clarification of it was confirmed that you required the following:

'resettlement in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear'

I am writing to confirm that Ministry of Defence holds information on the subject you have requested. We have searched the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) System for Service personnel that had a permanent home address recorded before they left service with a county field of *Tyne and Wear* and/or a town address of *Sunderland*.

I can confirm that 342 Service personnel matched this criteria but you should be aware that there are a number of caveats on the data.

Tyne and Wear is a fixed input in the county field but town (ie Sunderland) is free text and there may be many variations on spellings, typos etc which would not be captured.

Although a last known address at the point of discharge is held, this is not always completed or updated by the Service person prior to their discharge and in any event, will rapidly decline in validity as this data is not subsequently maintained.

As explained in our letter of 15 June the Ministry of Defence publishes a variety of personnel data. For example regional location data for the past 5 years for serving personnel can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/location-of-all-uk-regular-service-and-civilian-personnel-quarterly-statistics-index>

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 CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). 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, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

DBS Secretariat