



Ministry
of Defence

Secretariat

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Kingston Road

Sutton Coldfield

B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.uk

Website: www.gov.uk/DIO

Ref: FOI2016/11809

[REDACTED]

January 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 2 December requesting the following information:

"I would like to request copies of all letters and emails written to Scottish local authorities regarding the closures of military barracks in Scotland announced in November"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

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.

The information you have requested can be found attached but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) and etc. Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) I must inform you that the letter regarding Kinloss is not accurate and the site is to remain open for the foreseeable future as stated by the Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon on 7 November. This announcement can be found at <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-11-07/debates/6492B615-02BD-4B69-B298-4C49DFF19868/DefenceEstate>.

I can also inform you that while the Ministry of Defence has routine engagements with Local Authorities which inform its strategic thinking the only documents specific to the November announcement are those attached to this response.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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, Ground 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 normally 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,

DIO Secretariat



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence

Main Building (5.H)

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

United Kingdom

Tel [REDACTED]

Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

Ref. Glencourse Barracks

[REDACTED]

Chief Executive

Midlothian Council

enquiries@midlothian.gov.uk

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]

E-mail: DIOASP-Dir@mod.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing the Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development.

Today's announcement includes the department's intent to dispose of Glencourse Barracks located within your district. I can confirm that it is not, however, the Department's intention to close the site before 2032. I can assure you that all Military

Units at the site will be reprovided for. Work to identify potential future location for 2nd Battalion the Royal Regiment continues. I will write to you again once a final decision has been made.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses plus other uses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,



Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director
F. [REDACTED]
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Ministry of Defence
Main Building (5.H)
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom
Tel [REDACTED]
Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

Ref: Kinloss
[REDACTED]

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]
E-mail: DIOASP-Dir@mod.uk

Chief Executive

Moray Council
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing the Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development.

Today's announcement includes the department's intent to dispose of Kinloss Airfield and Kinloss Barracks located within your district. I can confirm that it is not, however,

the Department's intention to close the site before 2026. I can assure you that the Military Units at the site will be reprovided for. Work continues to identify potential future location for 39 Eng RT Air Support. I will write to you again once a final decision has been made.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses plus other uses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,



Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director (██████████)

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence

Main Building (5.H)

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

United Kingdom

Tel: ██████████

Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

Ref: Meadowforth Barracks

Telephone [MOD]: ██████████

E-mail:

DIOASP-Dir@mod.

██████████
Chief Executive

Stirling Council

info@stirling.gov.uk

Dear ██████████

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing the Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development.

Today's announcement includes the department's intent to dispose of Meadowforth Barracks located within your district. I can confirm that it is not, however, the

Department's intention to close the site before. I can assure you that the Military Units at the site will be reprovided for. Work continues to identify potential future location for HQ 51 Highland Brigade currently based at Meadowfirth Barracks. I will write to you again once a final decision has been made.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses plus other uses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,



Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director [REDACTED]

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence

Main Building (5.H)

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

United Kingdom

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

**Ref: Redford Cavalry Barracks &
Redford Infantry Barracks.**

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]

E-mail: DIOASP-Dir@mod.

[REDACTED]
Chief Executive

City of Edinburgh Council

chiefexecutive@edinburgh.gov.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing the Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development.

Today's announcement includes the department's intent to dispose of Redford Cavalry Barracks and Redford Infantry Barracks located within your district. I can confirm that it is not, however, the Department's intention to close the site before 2022. I can assure you that the Military Units at the site will be reprovided for. The current intention is that they will move to Dreghorn Barracks. I will write to you again once a final decision has been made.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses plus other uses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,



Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director [REDACTED]

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence

Main Building (5.H)

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

United Kingdom

Tel [REDACTED]

Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

Ref: Stirling Forthside

Telephone [MOD]: + [REDACTED]

E-mail:

DIOASP-Dir@mod.uk

[REDACTED]
Chief Executive

Stirling Council

info@stirling.gov

Dear [REDACTED]

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing the Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development.

Today's announcement includes the department's intent to dispose of Stirling Forthside located within your district. I can confirm that it is not, however, the Department's intention to close the site before 2022. I can assure you that the

Military Units at the site will be reprovided for. The current intention is that they will move to Leuchars Barracks. I will write to you again once a final decision has been made.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses plus other uses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,

Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Asset Strategy and Portfolio Director [REDACTED]

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence

Main Building (5.H)

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

United Kingdom

Tel : [REDACTED]

Email DIOASP-EstateOptimisation@mod.uk

Ref: Craigiehall

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]

E-mail: DIOASP-Dir@mod.uk

[REDACTED]
Chief Executive

City of Edinburgh Council

chief.executive@edinburgh.gov.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

7th November 2016

Today the Defence Secretary, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, is announcing a Better Defence Estate in the House of Commons. This Strategy has examined the Defence built estate across the UK with the aim of taking a comprehensive, long-term and strategic approach to its configuration to deliver UK military capability, affordably and as efficient as possible. The Strategy will facilitate significant economic benefits, both in terms of the employment opportunities that will arise for the construction and services industries across the UK and in the release of surplus land for new housing and commercial development

Today's announcement reconfirms the Department's intent to dispose of Craigiehall in your area, which was initially announced for disposal in January 2016. I can confirm that it is not, however, the Department's intention to close the site before 2018. I can assure you that all Military Units at the site will be reprovided for. The current intention is that they will move to Dreghorn Barracks.

The Ministry of Defence will continue the process of detailed planning and necessary engagement with the stakeholders concerned including officials in your organisation.

You will be aware that the department has made a desk level assessment of the potential number of houses that may be built on the site only and MOD officials will work with you in order to confirm this figure. We would appreciate your support as we go through that process.

Yours Sincerely,



Director of Asset, Strategy & Portfolio

DIO Sec-Parli (MULTIUSER)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 December 2016 12:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Introduction and enquiry

[REDACTED]
Thanks. See you Monday.

Regards
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Asset Strategy & Portfolio Directorate – Acquisitions and Disposals
Forthview House | Hilton Road | ROSYTH, Fife | KY11 2BL

MOB: [REDACTED] 07800 [REDACTED] 60
[REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED] **Email:** [REDACTED]
Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 Decem...
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Introduction and enquiry

Hi [REDACTED]

I can confirm Monday 5th, 3pm meeting.

In attendance will be [REDACTED] n (Head of Planning), [REDACTED] ar (Head of Development), [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (Senior Officer Estates), [REDACTED] (Planning Manager), and myself from Economic
development. [REDACTED] and I will be with you throughout the meeting. The others will attend in part, as
they have other civic related meetings/ engagements already in their diaries. This shouldn't be a
problem as [REDACTED] is your key man for this meeting, and I can cover up for [REDACTED] so, as I report
directly to [REDACTED]

See both yourself and [REDACTED] on Monday.

Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@edinburgh.gov.uk>
<[REDACTED]@edinburgh.gov.uk>

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:simon.yates465@mod.uk]
Sent: 29 November 2016 15:36
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] [mailto:simon.yates465@mod.uk]
Subject: RE: Introduction and enquiry

I tried to ring you a couple of times but you must be away from your desk. Could you please let me know if you have managed to set up the meeting we discussed last week between myself and the DIO Head of Planning, and senior officials in the Council to discuss Craigiehall and Redford Barracks?

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Asset Strategy & Portfolio Directorate – Acquisitions and Disposals
Forthview House | Hilton Road | ROSYTH, Fife | KY11 2BL

MOD telephone: [REDACTED] **Telephone:** [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED] **E-mail:** simon.yates465@mod.uk
Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:thecouncil@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 24 November 2016 17:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Introduction and enquiry

I will give you a call tomorrow [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [mailto:simon.yates465@mod.uk]
Sent: 24 November 2016 15:37
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Introduction and enquiry

Following the recent Better Defence Estate ministerial announcement, [REDACTED] of the DIO planning team) and myself would welcome the chance to meet senior officials from CEC Development and Planning to discuss the

forthcoming disposal of the Craighall and Redford Barracks sites. [REDACTED] will be in Edinburgh on the 5th and 6th December but is in other meetings until 3pm on Monday 5th.

Is it possible to set up a meeting for either late afternoon on the 5th or sometime on the 6th December?

Please call my mobile if you need to discuss anything.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Asset Strategy & Portfolio Directorate – Acquisitions and Disposals
Forthview House | Hilton Road | ROSYTH, Fife | KY11 2BL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 January 2017 07:58
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

Thank you for your response. We will assume we are meeting you at Waverley Court on the afternoon of Tuesday 31st January for the time being but we are happy to change the arrangements if that suits you better.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2017 20:37
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

Good evening [REDACTED] – thanks for your email. I had a good break thanks, I hope you did too.

As mentioned previously, we're keen to work with the Ministry of Defence in relation to the disposals and so a meeting would be very helpful. Could we please say the afternoon of Tuesday 31st January? I will circulate an electronic invite.

I think a tour of the sites would undoubtedly be useful – I will give some thought to the logistics of this. It might be that this would need to take place separately given diaries. I will look into this and confirm ASAP.

In terms of the master-plans, it'd be very useful for us to understand what work has been done in relation to Craigiehall and Redford so far. We will also do some initial analysis of the sites in order to understand their development potential. It would be good to reach a mutual position on the best use for the sites and on what our working arrangements should be moving forward.

Kind regards,

Development | Economic Development | Place | City of Edinburgh Council
G.1 Waverley Court | 4 East Market Street | Edinburgh | EH8 8BG

Edinburgh – UK Entrepreneurial City of the Year

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2017 10:27
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

Happy New Year – I hope you had a relaxing break.

Both [REDACTED] and myself are available on Thursday 26th January pm or Tuesday 31st January to meet you all and continue our discussions about Craigiehall and Redford. We were wondering if you would find it useful to look round both sites and then see the master plans we have had prepared indicating the potential number of housing units which could be developed there?

Regards

MOD telephone. Telephone: C. [REDACTED]

Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 December 2016 15:19
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email - I absolutely appreciate [REDACTED]. I have a lot on at present. If you are able to suggest some dates to lyke and myself in January, that'd be excellent.

I hope you also have a pleasant break.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]
[Redacted] Edinburgh Council
[Redacted] Edinburgh Council
[Redacted] Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh – UK Entrepreneurial City of the Year

From: [Redacted] (mailto:[Redacted])

Sent: 21 December 2016 15:07

To: [Redacted] (mailto:[Redacted])

Cc: [Redacted] (mailto:[Redacted])

Subject: RE: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

[Redacted]

You are probably aware now that [Redacted] is on leave until after the New Year and, as you will appreciate, City of Edinburgh Council is one of a number of local planning authorities he is currently speaking to about the MOD's estate optimisation programme and his diary is therefore very full.

However, we are keen to continue the useful discussions we had earlier this month and we will get in touch in early January to arrange a follow up meeting at the earliest opportunity. In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy a peaceful and relaxing Christmas.

Regards

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

MOD telephone: 94740 8518 Telephone: 01383 858518 Fax: 01383 648080

Mobile: 07771 555186 Email: [\[Redacted\]](mailto:[Redacted])

Website: www.mod.uk/DIO

From [Redacted]

Sent: 21 December 2016 15:07

To: [Redacted] (mailto:[Redacted])

Cc: [Redacted] (mailto:[Redacted])

Subject: Edinburgh - Craigiehall and Redford disposals

Good afternoon [Redacted] I hope you are well.

I am getting in touch from the City of Edinburgh Council in follow-up to the meeting you attended on 5th December. [Redacted], our Housing Strategy and Investment Manager, is very keen to work with the Ministry of Defence to

build a strategic partnership with shared objectives, strategy and delivery options for Craigiehall and Redford. To this end, [redacted] to work up proposals as to how the Council can work with the Ministry of Defence to achieve mutual objectives for the sites.

[redacted] to have a follow-up meeting to discuss how this can be progressed. Could you please let me know if you intend to be in Edinburgh early in the New Year? If so, perhaps we could arrange a second meeting.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Edinburgh – UK Entrepreneurial City of the Year

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