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Your Reference:

Our Reference:

[REDACTED]

Date:
18 August 2014

Email : [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Request for Information

Thank you for your email of 23 June 2014. You asked:

BFPO numbers used on Operation HERRICK in Afghanistan

British military operations in Afghanistan are winding down and it is reported on the MOD website that British Forces are now only in Camp Bastion, which itself will close by the end of the year.

With that in mind are you able to confirm the locations for the following BFPO numbers used in Afghanistan and to provide locations for those not identified in the following list.

In addition are you able to provide closure dates for those BFPO numbers no longer in use.

Please also list any additional BFPO number used in Afghanistan not included in the listing below, again with a location and closure date, if closed.

BFPO 715	Lashkar Gah
BFPO 755	FOB Price, Gereshk
BFPO 758	Camp Souter, Kabul
BFPO 764	HQ ISAF, Kabul
BFPO 772	Kandahar
BFPO 779	-?-
BFPO 792	Camp Bastion
BFPO 793	Patrol Base Shahzad
BFPO 795	-?-

BFPO 796	-?-
BFPO 797	-?-
BFPO 798	-?-

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

On 21 July 2014 I wrote to you to acknowledge your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act; to inform you that the MOD held information relating to your request and to explain that we believed the information fell within the scope of qualified exemption: Section 26 (*Defence*). As such it was necessary for us to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

We have now completed this work and I can tell you that we have concluded that the information you have requested does not fall within scope of the qualified exemption provided at Section 26 (*Defence*) of the FOIA.

A table of information that falls within scope of your request is below, however please note that the closure dates refer to the date the BFPO numbers were no longer available on the Royal Mail system and not when the base closed.

BFPO 715	Lashkar Gah	Closed 17/01/14
BFPO 755	FOB Price, Gereshk	Closed 11/04/14
BFPO 758	Camp Souter, Kabul	Open
BFPO 764	HQ ISAF, Kabul	Open
BFPO 772	Kandahar	Open
BFPO 779	-?-	Not Op Herrick – incorrectly listed on website; correction will be published 07/07/14
BFPO 792	Camp Bastion	Open
BFPO 793	Patrol Base Shahzad CF-NDA (Nad-e-Ali)	Closed 04/06/14
BFPO 795	CF-LKG (Lashkar-Gah)	Closed 30/08/14
BFPO 796	CF-SGN (Sangin)	Closed 04/06/14
BFPO 798	KIA	Open
BFPO 759	Qargha (ANA Officer Academy Kabul)	Opened 26/3/14

BFPO 797, although still open, has not been used since March 2011. Our records show that mail addressed to this BFPO number was sent to Camp Bastion.

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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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For Head of Secretariat