



Ministry  
of Defence

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27 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 12 October 2016 which has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

*'Any information with regards the replacement options or plans for the Royal Marine Units currently based at Stonehouse Barracks in Plymouth after the property is sold as recently announced. This can include possible options or if a decision has been made then information directly related to that decision.'*

*'Can I also get the total number of civilians employed within Stonehouse Barracks.'*

In answer to the first part of your request, the decision to vacate Stonehouse Barracks, as with the other changes to the Ministry of Defence estate, is based on the need for an efficient and fit for purpose facility that provides the right future support for a modern fighting force. While there are further detailed studies to be undertaken, and no final decisions have been taken, the intent is to do this by building on the existing Amphibious Centre of Excellence within the wider Plymouth area.

Further information on the Defence Optimisation Strategy and planned implementation will be released in the coming months as mentioned in the written statement issued by Mark Lancaster, Minister (DVRP), on 6 September 16 which is available via this hyperlink:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-09-06/HCWS133/>

With regard to the second part of your request the number of civilians employed by the Ministry of Defence at Stonehouse Barracks is 70. To clarify this figure has been rounded to the nearest 10 with numbers ending in 5 being rounded up.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Zone K, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section