



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.uk
www.gov.uk/DIO

1 June 2015

Ref. FOI2015/04114

Dear

Thank you for your email of 30 April requesting the following information:

"I would like to get the following information:

- *Names and locations of all army, navy, marine and RAF bases in the UK between 1945 and 2015*
- *Details of their size (number of personnel), information on any significant reduction in size or jobs and dates on when they were shut."*

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

I am writing to confirm that MOD does hold some of the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to extract information in scope of your request would involve at least some five man days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. If the bases requested were specified, or the post codes of the bases were provided, we would be able to provide personnel strengths. This is as stationed location data is stored against a post code rather than a base name in the Joint Personnel Administration System.

Additionally if the timescale was reduced, as figures can only be provided back to April 2007. This is as data is stored on the Joint Personnel Administration system which all three services (Navy, Army, Air) did not all start using until April 2007.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the Quarterly Location Statistics report, available on gov.uk, gives Military and Civilian personnel strengths by local authority going back to 2010:

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

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat

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 DIO Secretariat 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>.