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Our Ref: FOI2016/07336

15 August 2016

Dear

Thank you for your email of 2 July 2016 requesting the following information:

*"How many properties that the MOD own or lease are empty?  
What properties does the MOD have for sale?"*

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 below but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at Section 21 of the Act (accessible by other means).

There are, at 27 July 2016, 9,931 empty Ministry of Defence (MOD) properties in the UK. I can advise you, under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance), that the empty properties comprise long term voids awaiting disposal, properties requiring structural work and properties needed to fulfil the MOD's requirement to have housing available for entitled personnel when posted to a new area. Specifically there are vacant properties in England awaiting the return of remaining Army personnel and families from Germany who will, over the next three years, require accommodation. In Northern Ireland the majority of void properties are awaiting demolition while 59 have been gifted to the Northern Ireland Executive.

Your request for details of the properties for sale is covered by Section 21 of the Act (accessible by other means). Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that properties for sale are listed on Gov.UK at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disposal-database-house-of-commons-report>

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, 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,

DIO Secretariat