



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
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Ref: FOI2015/07370

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

04 November 2015

E-mail address: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Dear XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Thank you for your email of 24 August 2015 requesting the following information:

a breakdown of the number of Regular Army personnel with a registered home address by each town and county in the UK

which was clarified by your email of 09 September 2015 to mean permanent home address.

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

This letter is to inform you that the MOD holds information related to your request, but that we consider that the information falls within the scope of the following qualified exemptions:

Section 26 (Defence), Section 38 (Health and Safety).

As such it is necessary for us to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. After due consideration, we have decided that the information may be released, but it has been restricted to county level. To narrow the information further to include the relevant towns would fall entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA, and this detail has been omitted.

A copy of the information which can be released is enclosed. Please note that all figures have been rounded to the nearest 10. It is not mandatory for Service personnel to record their home address details, and the enclosed relates only to those who have provided this detail.

Where the number of personnel in a specific county is relatively small, these have been added with other counties. In doing this, we have taken the view that to release the information in greater detail could potentially lead to the identification of individuals.

There are other occasions where personnel have listed local authorities that no longer exist. In such cases, we have endeavoured to put those in the most appropriate location, but this might not always be an exact match.

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, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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