

Secretariat

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Kingston Road

Sutton Coldfield

B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.uk

www.gov.uk/DIO

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19 December 2016

Dear

Thank you for your [letter/email] of 18 November requesting the following information:

". . . the current proposed timeline for the review of the Aldershot Military Lands Byelaws 1976 byelaws . . . when the review will start, the main milestones that make up the review and the dates of the public consultation."

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 but it falls within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 22 (Information intended for future publication).

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and is subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure. In this case the information is at a very embryonic stage of development and would do nothing to further understanding of, and participation in, the public debate of the issues of the day nor would it promote accountability and transparency for decisions taken by the Ministry of Defence or in the spending of public money.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that there will be no one review of the Aldershot Military Byelaws 1976. There will be a number of projects covering different areas none of which has yet resolved a starting date, milestones or consultation dates. These will be published in due course at which point they will appear on the Gov.UK website.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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, Ground 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 normally 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