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Ref: FOI2016/11012

15 December 2016

Thank you for your email of 25 November requesting the following information:

- "The number of service accommodation dwellings in NI"*
- "The number currently in use"*
- "The number of substitute service accommodation dwellings and the number currently in use"*
- "The cost of maintenance of both types of accommodation over the last five years"*

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 (MOD), and I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held. The information you have requested can be found below:

There are 1824 Service Family Accommodation (SFA) properties in Northern Ireland This figure includes 199 properties at Ballykinler not presently occupied that are earmarked for disposal. 560 of these properties are currently occupied. This does not account for any void properties that may have been allocated or offered that have not yet been moved into.

There are 16 substitute accommodation properties currently being rented in Northern Ireland.

The cost of maintenance of both types of accommodation is not information which is held centrally.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) I can tell you that the National Housing Prime contract does not require costs to be articulated for individual countries or locations. Consequently the MOD does not hold details of costs for Northern Ireland. For substitute properties, it is normally the landlord's responsibility to meet maintenance costs.

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](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 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