



# Ministry of Defence

Secretariat  
Defence Infrastructure Organisation  
Kingston Road  
Sutton Coldfield  
B75 7RL

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

5 December 2016

Ref. FOI2015/01337

Dear

Thank you for your email of 11 November 2016 requesting the following information:

*“the “business case” documents were used in the process that led to the decision on 7th November to close or relocate the following sites and units:*

1. *Closure of Fulwood Barracks, Preston*
2. *Move of HQ 42 Infantry Brigade & HQ North West from Fulwood Barracks, Preston, to Weeton Barracks, Blackpool.*
3. *Move of 3 Medical Regiment RAMC to undisclosed location.*
4. *Move of King's Band to undisclosed location.”*

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 information in scope of your request is held but this falls under Section 21 of the Act being reasonably accessible to you from other sources; in this case the internet.

A link to the A Better Defence Estate documents can be found below:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/565858/20161107\\_MOD\\_Better\\_Defence\\_Estate\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/565858/20161107_MOD_Better_Defence_Estate_FINAL.pdf)

Information relating to Fulwood Barracks can be found on page 21 of the document.

Under Section 16 of the Act (advice and Guidance) I can tell you that the estate optimisation plans articulated within A Better Defence Estate set out the Department's intent to reconfigure the estate, making it more cost effective and efficient, as well as 30% smaller overall by 2040. Initial work for this strategy has concluded that the strategy represents value for money for the taxpayer. Assessment studies for the site will be conducted over the next 12 to 18 months to more

precisely define the exact moves and sequencing in line with delivering the outputs of the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015. This will then lead to business cases for activities associated with individual sites.

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>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat