



**Ministry
of Defence**

THE RT HON MARK FRANÇOIS MP
MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL WELFARE AND VETERANS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
FLOOR 5 ZONE B MAIN BUILDING
WHITTHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone

Our ref: D/Min(DPWW)/MF MC00884/2013
2013
Your ref: -

18 March

I note your longstanding constituency interest in Kneller Hall, which I know has been the home of the Royal Military School of Music (RMSM) for over 150 years and is also home to HQ Corps of Army Music (CAMUS).

The nature of Kneller Hall as a historic listed building, and the associated planning restrictions applied to the site, are such that its use as a modern training establishment creates challenges in terms of functionality and cost. The infrastructure of Kneller Hall is also considered to be only just fit for purpose. Against this background, and taking into account the requirement to make optimum use of the Defence Estate, Project CLFF has been set up to undertake an initial high level analysis of options for the potential future location of RMSM and HQ CAMUS. This includes the option of remaining at Kneller Hall, with full or limited refurbishment, as well as other options which involve relocation to other sites. The key aim will be to ensure that RMSM and HQ CAMUS can deliver their outputs safely, effectively and efficiently.

The project is still in its early stages. The Army expects to have a better understanding of the overall timescales involved later in the summer and I will keep you informed of any significant developments.

House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

[ORIGINAL SIGNED]

THE RT HON MARK FRANCOIS MP