



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

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

17 August 2017

Ref. FOI2017/07497

Thank you for your email of 23 July in which you requested the following information:

'A new Army Reserve Centre building has been proposed for development on Bedford Road in Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Plans were submitted under planning application 16/02721/1 - Single storey building with link to existing hall (block F) to provide joint educational centre for use by Air Training Corps and Army Cadet Force and ancillary works following demolition of blocks C,D,E,G & H (as amended by drawings received 20 December 2016).

The drawings submitted, specifically drawing 3771-P8 Proposed Ground Floor Plan, show that the areas within the building are not scaled in accordance with the approved document JSP 315 Scale 80 Reserves and Cadet Accommodation.

Please can the department advise the following;

- 1). Why the designer has moved away from the approved document?*
- 2). Who specifically approved the move away from the approved document?*
- 3). Is this deviation from the approved document a principle being set for all new Reserves and Cadet accommodation or just this site.*
- 4). What additional accommodation is proposed to bring this building to the correct scale?*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held by the MOD.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the Joint Service Publication 315 which sets out MOD building performance standards allows funders, delivery organisations, and users to agree variations from its terms. The document can be found here on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-building-performance-standards-jsp-315>.

More information may be available from the East Anglia Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association, who can be contacted at:

250 Springfield Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex
CM2 6BU
ea-estates@rfca.mod.uk
www.earfca.org.uk

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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 should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly 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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat