



Ministry
of Defence

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Ref: FOI2017/05137

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25 May 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 27 April 2017 in which you clarified that you required the following information:

'I refer to the above and should be grateful if you could advise me if the MOD/RN has conducted a survey amongst current RN personnel who are likely to move to Faslane to assess how many both in actual numbers and percentage terms are amenable to move their principal private residence to the Faslane area. Please also break down the numbers between unattached personnel and those with spouse/ partners and dependent children.

Please include all submariner personnel in your response.'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds information in scope of your request. In response to your first question, whilst the Ministry of Defence has not conducted a formal survey about the relocation of the submarine fleet to Faslane, the Submariner community has been consulted at various meetings and 'Clear Lower Decks' group announcements.

With regard to the numbers of unattached personnel and those with spouses/partners and dependent children, details of regular Submariner personnel who are married or in a civil partnership and the children they have under the age of 18 can be found in the Annex attached to this letter.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that data for both marital status and whether or not personnel have children is self-recorded and used for the purpose of determining entitlement to benefits. These figures are not validated by Defence Statistics and therefore do not constitute a direct measurement of either of these characteristics. In the table within Annex A, the data showing the number of personnel who have children includes only those personnel who are married or in a Civil Partnership (notes 4 and 5 to Table 1 refer).

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 me 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, Ground Floor, Zone D, 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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

Table 1: Numbers of Trained Regular Submariner personnel who are married or in a civil partnership and who have children under the age of 18 as at 1 April 2017:

	01-Apr-17
Total SM	3,977
Not Married or in a Civil Partnership	2,014
Married or in a Civil Partnership ^{2,3}	1,963
<i>of which have children⁴</i>	<i>611</i>

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

Notes

1. All Trained Regular personnel
2. 'Married or in a civil partnership' includes; 'Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership', 'Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to Civil Servant or Individual within recognised Welfare', 'Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to Service Person who is 1S', and 'Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to a Service Person who is 5C'. For more information please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-status-category-definitions>
3. Marital status is as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system and reflects the category into which personnel are placed for the purpose of determining entitlements to benefits. These figures are not validated by Defence Statistics and are not considered a direct measure of marital status.
4. The number of children is self-recorded on JPA by personnel for the purpose of determining entitlement to benefits. These figures are not validated by Defence Statistics and are not considered to be a direct measurement of whether personnel have children or not.
5. Data shown here is the number of personnel who are married or in a civil partnership and also have a child under the age of 18 recorded on JPA.

