



# Ministry of Defence

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Ref. FOI 2018/14304

6 December 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 8 November 2018 requesting the following information:

*"I request the total number of unoccupied residential properties owned by the MOD in Scotland in each of the last five years, and the top 5 reasons for why they were unoccupied."*

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 all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found enclosed, below.

The table below provides the total number vacant properties owned by the MOD in Scotland in the last five financial years:

Date	Vacant MOD properties
April 2013	690
April 2014	746
April 2015	990
April 2016	925
April 2017	1105
April 2018	1136

Please find below, the 5 most common reasons for vacant MOD properties:

- Surplus Service Family Accommodation (SFA) – the MOD's policy is to wait for service personnel to vacate so that SFA's can be disposed of in one cluster
- SFA requiring modernisation
- Structural, fire and flood damage
- As Establishments are closing, the gradual process means that some MOD properties will be vacant for a period of time.

- The MOD has future plans to build up establishments and as current requirements are less than future requirements, this results in surplus MOD properties.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made in writing 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