



Ministry
of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

diosec-parli@mod.uk
www.gov.uk/DIO

Ref. FOI 2016/08795

13 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 16 September 2016 requesting the following information:

"I am undertaking a contaminated land risk assessment for the area of land located to the north of the now, Army reserve centre, 211 Tanker Squadron, on 50 Limavady Road, Derry.

I am trying to establish if the centre is a source of contamination to our proposed site/area of concern and as such have a number of queries and requests for information which are detailed below:

- *"Can the MOD confirm historically the extent of the centre – in that it has not historically extended northwards beyond the **current** fenced boundary as detailed below in red?"*
- *Historically what the base was used for? For example not a firing range and therefore there is no risk of ordnance in the area to the north?*
- *Any historically spillages of fuel, or pollution incidents on the site?*
- *Recent construction in the northern area of the barrack – can you confirm what material is located within the mound, and whether it is capped with impermeable material above and below?"*

I am treating your request as a request for information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held and can be found below.

- **Can the MOD confirm historically the extent of the centre – in that it has not historically extended northwards beyond the current fenced boundary as detailed below in red?**

According to our records the Reserve Centre historically occupied the upper 50% of the site outlined in red closest to the main road. The lower 50% of the site historically was used as Army Quarters which were essentially domestic dwellings and gardens which were

demolished in recent years to create a stoned parking area for vehicles. At no point has the area of concern (beyond our current boundary) been used for any purpose or activity carried out by the users of the Reserve Centre to the best of our knowledge.

- **Historically what the base was used for? For example not a firing range and therefore there is no risk of ordnance in the area to the north?**

The Reserve Centre has historically been used to support the Army Reservists in this location who as part of their role would have been in contact with ammunition; however, the site has never been used as, or housed, a range facility.

- **Any historically spillages of fuel, or pollution incidents on the site?**

MOD have no records of any spillages or pollution incidents on the site; a fuel point was decommissioned over 15 years ago and any associated contaminants were appropriately disposed of prior to the construction of the new main building.

- **Recent construction in the northern area of the barrack – can you confirm what material is located within the mound, and whether it is capped with impermeable material above and below?**

The mound is constructed from some of the rubble from the dwellings which were demolished and also a significant amount of topsoil from the large area which was cleared, levelled and stoned for overflow vehicle parking.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your Environmental Information 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, 2nd Floor, Zone N, 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