



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
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20 December 2018

Ref. FOI 2018/15449

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 3 December 2018 requesting the following information:

"1. A list of all Service family accommodation properties managed by the MOD, along with their addresses and postcodes, and whether they are currently occupied or empty.

1a. If (1) is exempt, would it be possible to instead provide the number of service family accommodation properties in each Local Authority district, and the number in each district that are currently occupied or empty.

2. A list of all substitute service family accommodation properties leased on behalf of the MOD, along with their addresses and postcodes.

2a. If (2) is exempt, would it be possible to instead provide the number of substitute service family accommodation properties leased on behalf of the MOD in each Local Authority district.

3. The annual amount spent renting substitute service family accommodation properties, and if possible this figure broken down by local authority district - for 2016, 2017 and 2018."

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 some information in scope of your request is held.

For Questions 1 and 2, the information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemptions provided for at section 26(3) Defence and section 38(2) Health and Safety.

Sections 26(3) and 38(2) have been applied to protect the security of Armed Forces personnel and the safety of their families and dependants.

S26(3) and S38(2) are qualified exemptions and therefore public interest tests (PIT) have been conducted to determine whether the balance of the public interest. The arguments for the application of the exemptions provided for at S26(3) and S38(2) are closely linked. Whilst there is a public interest in releasing information, it does not outweigh the very strong public interest in

protecting the safety and security of those who live in SFA properties. If MOD provided addresses and postcodes this would give anyone with malicious intent the address of a Service person which would potentially place them and their family, or indeed anyone who occupied the property in the future, at risk of harm.

I am satisfied in this case that the balance of the public interest lies in the application of the withholding the information as provided for at Section 26(3) and Section 38(2) of the FOIA.

In answer to Question 1a, this can be found enclosed at Annex A.

In answer to Questions 2a, the MOD does not hold this information in the format requested.

In answer to Question 3, the MOD is able to provide the annual amount spent renting Substitute Service Family Accommodation by financial years, and is as follows:

FY15/16 - £16,294,551.81
FY16/17 - £9,852,828.00
FY17/18 - £10,491,358.73

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that in relation to Question 1, although the Service Family Accommodation figures are up to date and accurate, as yet some changes to Local Authority names may not have filtered through the system to be picked up by this report. In relation to Question 2a the MOD holds information on Substitute Service Family Accommodation by regions, for example, East of England, Midlands, Highlands, London, North West, Scotland/C Borders, South East, South West, Wales, Yorkshire, Humberside, North East.

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). 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

County	Total SFA	Occupancy		Void Period				Available for Occupancy
		LET	VOID	Less than 1 Year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 Years	3 Years +	
ABERDEENSHIRE	16	13	3	1	1	0	1	3
ANGUS	82	46	36	24	8	2	2	33
ARGYLL AND BUTE	595	347	248	45	36	11	156	72
AVON	267	224	43	40	3	0	0	42
AYRSHIRE	26	17	9	2	0	0	7	4
BEDFORDSHIRE	596	441	155	69	25	16	45	107
BERKS	1126	879	247	134	43	22	48	181
BUCKS	1021	843	178	83	18	27	50	116
CAITHNESS	4	4	0					0
CAMBS	1095	772	323	181	25	17	100	146
CHESHIRE	200	146	54	43	6	0	5	49
CLWYD	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	2
CORNWALL	612	494	118	88	23	5	2	104
COUNTY ANTRIM	861	396	465	80	19	9	357	110
COUNTY DOWN	569	130	439	18	34	24	363	107
COUNTY DURHAM	77	46	31	14	9	5	3	29
CUMBRIA	36	12	24	8	6	3	7	8
DEVON	1672	1386	4	200	54	20	12	243
DORSET	1100	876	224	147	40	17	20	218
DUMBARTON	4	0	4	0	0	0	4	0
DUMFRIES	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
DURHAM	15	4	11	3	1	5	2	11
DYFED	185	131	54	31	14	2	7	52
EAST SUSSEX	6	4	2	0	0	1	1	2
EAST YORKSHIRE	14	13	1	0	0	0	1	0
EDINBURGH	536	345	191	61	45	26	59	110
ESSEX	1219	1090	129	90	17	10	12	95
FIFE	594	383	211	73	43	22	73	141
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	758	628	130	97	16	7	10	121
GWENT	195	165	30	24	3	2	1	29
GWYNEDD	165	124	41	18	11	8	4	39
HANTS	7019	5666	1353	773	211	82	287	978
HEREFORDSHIRE	306	294	12	11	0	1	0	11
HERTS	380	220	160	17	3	5	135	123
INVERNESS-SHIRE	208	160	48	38	6	3	1	26
ISLE OF BENBECULA	6	1	5	5	0	0	0	5
KENT	1374	981	393	172	81	27	113	277
LANCASHIRE	308	193	115	54	21	14	26	108
LEICESTERSHIRE	758	505	253	149	44	31	29	214
LINCOLNSHIRE	1720	1351	369	235	72	27	35	323

LONDON	661	553	108	59	17	6	26	96
MERSEYSIDE	5	4	1	1	0	0	0	1
MIDDLESEX	1127	905	222	113	32	12	65	128
MIDLOTHIAN	159	122	37	27	3	1	6	30
MORAY	904	620	284	147	82	40	15	218
NORFOLK	958	642	316	172	43	40	61	279
NORTH LANARKSHIRE	6	3	3	1	0	0	2	1
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	9	6	3	2	1	0	0	3
NORTH YORKS	3395	2652	743	494	162	45	42	692
NORTHUMBERLAND	189	150	39	28	2	3	6	32
NOTTINGHAM	263	212	51	37	6	4	4	39
ORKNEY ISLANDS	1	1	0					0
OXON	2681	2320	361	194	69	36	62	264
PEMBROKE	9	6	3	1	0	1	1	2
PERTH	4	1	3	1	0	0	2	3
POWYS	189	149	40	22	11	1	6	35
RENFREWSHIRE	89	53	36	24	7	1	4	34
ROSS AND CROMARTY	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
SHETLAND ISLANDS	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
SHROPSHIRE	924	664	260	136	49	37	38	216
SOMERSET	722	598	124	101	14	2	7	106
SOUTH GLAMORGAN	335	262	73	30	14	7	22	58
SOUTH YORKS	5	4	1	1	0	0	0	1
ST ANDREWS	3	1	2	0	0	0	2	2
STAFFORDSHIRE	724	586	138	98	27	6	7	116
STIRLING	13	11	2	2	0	0	0	2
SUFFOLK	1186	966	220	132	31	14	43	155
SURREY	1545	1148	397	252	83	27	35	298
TYNE AND WEAR	185	152	33	24	3	5	1	30
WARWICKSHIRE	344	266	78	48	14	8	8	67
WEST MIDLANDS	90	83	7	7	0	0	0	7
WEST SUSSEX	53	42	11	3	1	3	4	9
WEST YORKS	3	2	1	0	1	0	0	1
WILTS	7047	5554	1493	887	293	144	169	1150
WORCESTERSHIRE	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
YORKSHIRE	113	86	27	11	8	4	4	26
Grand Total	49674	38157	11517	6085	1911	899	2622	8340

Void Reason

Agreed For Sublet	Awaiting Unit Move	Modernisation	Major Works required	For Disposal
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	3	0	0
86	0	82	2	6
0	0	0	1	0
5	0	0	0	0
34	0	5	9	0
21	0	18	27	0
1	0	23	38	0
0	0	0	0	0
37	7	7	38	88
0	0	4	1	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	14	0	0
21	115	12	3	204
0	5	1	0	326
0	0	0	0	2
0	0	8	8	0
22	0	13	8	0
0	0	4	2	0
4	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
58	0	1	0	22
14	0	14	6	0
43	0	13	7	7
0	0	1	7	1
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	2	0
72	0	30	58	215
0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	35	2
5	0	17	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
44	0	7	17	48
2	1	0	4	0
14	0	5	20	0
16	0	7	23	0

0	0	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0
10	0	15	63	6
6	0	1	0	0
2	0	59	5	0
0	0	36	0	1
2	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	10	40	0
1	0	6	0	0
10	0	0	2	0
0	0	0	0	0
10	0	48	33	6
0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	4	0
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
16	0	8	15	5
0	0	7	11	0
10	0	1	3	1
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	9	13	0
0	0	0	0	0
39	0	5	19	2
11	0	11	20	57
0	0	3	0	0
8	0	0	3	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0
28	0	218	87	10
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
659	128	733	642	1015