



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

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

6 September 2019

Ref. FOI 2019/09642

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 20 August 2019 requesting the following information:

"I am making further contact to ask additional questions about the Firing Range at Middlewick, Colchester.

I would be grateful if you could please advise me what "title" the Ministry of Defence has for this land?

When did the MOD or its predecessors acquire Middlewick?

It is being claimed by some in Colchester that the town "gave" Middlewick to the Army for use as a firing range.

What does your legal paperwork say to prove that the MOD has legal title?"

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 and can be found below.

I confirm that the MOD has absolute registered title of Middlewick Training Area and it is registered at the Land Registry with title number EX774246. The MOD acquired Middlewick Training Area in various parcels between 1856 and 1939.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that further information you may find useful can be found at the land registry; <https://www.gov.uk/search-property-information-land-registry>

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