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Ref. FOI 2019/10585

9 October 2019



Thank you for your email of 11 September 2019 requesting the following information:

"In the interests of a speedy resolution of this matter we therefore ask for the provision of:

- 1. maps showing the various routes taken by pipes emanating from Building 22.
- 2. copies of the original tenancy agreements for Wexland Farm (believed to have commenced in the 1930s).
- 3. any correspondence, agreements and variations which refer to any changes in water supply systems for Netheravon House (including Avon Camp), Wains Way, Manor Farm and Wexland Farm including changes to pumping systems etc.
- 4. the date on which the tank washing-down facility on Netheravon Down closed and where its water supply came from
- 5. bills and other metre readings taken from supply pipes emanating from our Building 22 and their location.
- 6. can you confirm that Scottish Water or similar have been instructed by you or your agents to investigate the water supply routes around Choulston Farm."

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.

The information you have requested can be found below and attached at Annex A & B, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at sections 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in question one of your request in order to protect personal information as governed by the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

1. maps showing the various routes taken by pipes emanating from Building 22.

Please see attached at Annex A and B.

2. copies of the original tenancy agreements for Wexland Farm (believed to have commenced in the 1930s).

The MOD holds no information on this question.

3. any correspondence, agreements and variations which refer to any changes in water supply systems for Netheravon House (including Avon Camp), Wains Way, Manor Farm and Wexland Farm including changes to pumping systems etc.

The MOD holds no information on this question.

4. the date on which the tank washing-down facility on Netheravon Down closed and where its water supply came from.

The MOD holds no information in regards to the date on which the washdown facility on Netheravon Down closed, however I can confirm that Ancala Water Services (AWS) supplied the water at the washdown facility.

5. bills and other metre readings taken from supply pipes emanating from our Building 22 and their location

The MOD holds no information on this question.

6. can you confirm that Scottish Water or similar have been instructed by you or your agents to investigate the water supply routes around Choulston Farm. Needless to say, the money lost over the past decades we will look to offset against any rent owing with interest.

The MOD holds no information on this question. Neither Defence Infrastructure Organisation or AWS have instructed any party to investigate the water supply surrounding Choulston Farm.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to know that in relation to question four of your request, the washdown facility was closed approximately 18 months ago and the water switched off due to AWS's concerns of a leak between the tank and the reservoir.

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













