



Ministry
of Defence

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 25 June, in which you asked for a list with the name of every Army unit based in the South West of England and, for each unit, which town (or village) it is based in. I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds this information. This information is exempt under Section 21(1) of the Act, because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. As stated in your Internal Review letter dated 5 July 2019 (regarding FOI2018/15704 and FOI2019/01404), there was a Parliamentary Question (PQ194616) asked on 22 November 2018 and, in response to this question, a list of Regular and Reserve Army unit locations was provided. You can access this information on the parliamentary website via the link below:

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-questions-answers/?page=1&max=20&questiontype=AllQuestions&house=commons%2Clords&uin=194616>.

Under Section 23(5) (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any additional information in scope of your request, which, if held, would be exempt under Section 23. Section 23 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) it might be helpful if I explain that the 'current liability' figure reflects the overall size of the unit. You should note that personnel may not all necessarily be based in that location. Other units headquartered outside of the South West may also have personnel based in the region who are not all necessarily based in that location. This is explained in further detail in the Internal Review letter referred to above, at paragraph 12. The MOD publishes annual and quarterly statistics on military strength which can be found via the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/location-of-uk-regular-service-and-civilian-personnel-annual-statistics-2019>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/quarterly-service-personnel-statistics-index>

Furthermore, there have been some changes to unit locations since this Parliamentary Question. A table showing units that have moved, or are due to move this summer, to the South West of England can be found at Annex A.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made 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,

Army Secretariat

Enclosure:

Annex A – Table showing Army Units moving to the South West of England over the Summer of 2019

Army Units moving to the South West of England over the Summer of 2019

Unit	Location
Household Cavalry / Royal Armoured Corps	
Household Cavalry Regiment	Bulford
The Queen's Royal Hussars	Tidworth
The Royal Dragoon Guards	Warminster
Royal Artillery	
1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery	Larkhill
5th Regiment Royal Artillery	Larkhill
19th Regiment Royal Artillery	Larkhill
26th Regiment Royal Artillery	Larkhill
Royal Signals	
1st Signal Regiment	Tidworth
15th Signal Regiment Headquarters	Perham Down
Army Medical Services	
1 Armoured Medical Regiment	Tidworth
4 Armoured Medical Regiment	Tidworth
Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	
3 Armoured Close Support Battalion Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	Tidworth
5 Force Support Battalion Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	Lyneham