



# Ministry of Defence

Secretariat  
Defence Infrastructure Organisation  
Kingston Road  
Sutton Coldfield  
B75 7RL

E-mail: [diosecc-parli@mod.gov.uk](mailto:diosecc-parli@mod.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/DIO](http://www.gov.uk/DIO)

Mr Peter Corns  
[request-648399-4a4a004a@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-648399-4a4a004a@whatdotheyknow.com)

19 March 2020

Ref. FOI 2020/02456

Dear Mr Corns,

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2020 requesting the following information:

*"Following the erection of new gates on defence training estate near to Range Control in Ash vale, I am interested in what plans DIO / MoD has in this and nearby areas that could impact public access.*

*I would like to know about any fencing / gates / barrier / or other method proposed to restrict or remove public access to the lands referred to in the 1976 Aldershot and District Military Lands Byelaws – whether these are to be implemented by MoD, DIO, Landmarc, or any other party.*

*I am most interested in detail related to the Ash Ranges Danger Area (RDA) D132 and the immediately contiguous areas (I believe these are referred to as training areas E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6 & E7). Should the cost(s) exceed the cost limit then my request in this instance should be restricted to Ash Ranges Danger Area (RDA) D132.*

*As I am a layperson, I am interested in gaining as detailed an understanding as possible into any plans that should exist. For example:*

*\* Maps of areas impacted by any plans (e.g. showing new public access points or gates)*

*\* Summaries of what additional restrictions will be put in place (e.g. an extension of the use of the red flag system or the introduction of restrictions such as those introduced at Deepcut where the public only have access for certain times each year)*

*\* Dates when any work is to take place, enclosure is to be enacted, or access to be restricted*

*\* Type of enclosure / restriction (e.g. deer fence, new gates, etc)*

*\* Whether there is to be a public consultation*

*\* Dates of any public consultation*

*\* Whether planning permission will be sought or is required*

*\* Copies of any communications that have been held with local councils / local access forums / MPs / Councillors, or plans for the same (e.g. copies of emails to the local parish councils)*

*\* Minutes from any meetings where these have been discussed – I don't need the names of the individuals, but would like the positions of the attendees. I'd also like to see the full minutes of the meeting, not just excerpts relating to my request – this as per ICO best practice. (e.g. meeting minutes of military liaison forums)*

*\* The cost of each proposed fence/enclosure – I'd like to know who is providing the funds (e.g. central MoD / DIO, or jointly with a housing developer)*

*\* Details of the exact restriction (where known), together with your estimate of what proportion of time the public will have access. (e.g. gates and a fence are installed, access at weekends in holidays)*

*I am keen that the enquiry scope is not too broad, so please restrict your search to information on plans that are due for implementation after September 2019. Note if information exists that was created before that date but that relates to plans to be implemented after that date, then such information should still be treated as in scope for this inquiry."*

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 is exempt under Section 21 of the FOI Act because it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following link:

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/634211/response/1522713/attach/html/3/20200206%20F.pdf.html>

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to know that this request is identical to FOI00498 which was responded to by Defence Infrastructure Organisation on 11 February 2020.

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.uk](mailto: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,

DIO Secretariat