



Ministry of Defence

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request-376512-5db2bd5d@whatdotheyknow.com

Ref. FOI2017/12158

Dear Mr Grant

Thank you for your email of [date] requesting the following information:

“RAF Halton Closes by 2022. It has significant recognised military history associated with the 20th Century including WW1, WW 11 and the Cold War. This is manifested in a number of ways including Rolls of Honour and specialty windows in St George's Church as well as the pictorial and Archive stories ranging from that associated with Frank Whittle and many WW11 heroes from the 40000 plus RAF Engineering Apprentices who trained at RAF HALTON for 73 of the first 100 years of the Royal Air Force. It is a significant component in the history of Lord Trenchard's vision for the foundation of the Service.

What plans are in place to ensure the markers for this Legacy and Heritage (already in place and available for access by the public) will be sustained at the site-perhaps in what is now St George's Church - following closure.”

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 no information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that Aylesbury Vale District Council have received initial contact from MOD officials who will work closely with the Council and other interested parties to consider the best possible future use for the site.

RAF Halton contains a number of listed buildings and structures that have statutory protection, including Grade 2* Halton House and gardens. In addition, there are a number of features and artefacts currently housed at the site by the RAF which have significance both to the history of the service and the local community. This includes items currently found at St Georges Church. Whilst the Church is not listed, the MOD recognise the significance of many of its features and will be considering how best to ensure this is dealt with in a respectful manner.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 2nd Floor, Zone N, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat