



Ministry
of Defence

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Ref: FOI2021/05056

16th June 2021

Mr Gary Wayne
request-754771-761e5467@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Wayne,

Thank you for your email on 12th May 2021 requesting the following information:

"I am interested in obtaining information regarding Operation TOSCA.

- 1) How many British service personnel are based in Cyprus as part of Operation TOSCA.*
- 2) Do British service personnel use Ledra Palace Hotel and if so for what purpose?*
- 3) Which organisation owns and / or is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of the Ledra Palace Hotel."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

There are currently 253 British service personnel based in Cyprus on Operation TOSCA, who are serving as part of the UK's contribution to the United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) Mission.

Ledra Palace Hotel is utilised by British service personnel during the day where they use the ground floor of the building for meals and gym purposes.

As Ledra Palace Hotel is in the buffer zone, and British troops deployed are serving on a UN Mission, any responsibility for maintenance or repairs remain with UNFICYP. The UK's usage of the building is coordinated in conjunction with the UN's Department of Peacebuilding & Political Affairs (DPPA) in New York.

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 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,

PJHQ J9 Secretariat