



# Ministry of Defence

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Mr S House  
[request-544613-8f3cae5f@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-544613-8f3cae5f@whatdotheyknow.com)

7 February 2019

Ref. FOI 2019/00631

Dear Mr House,

Thank you for your email of 14 January 2019 requesting the following information:

*"Following the erection of fences around the defence training estate to the south and west of Deepcut, and the Long Valley area, I am interested in any other plans for similar work in the future.*

*Specifically, I would like to know details of any fencing / barrier / or other method proposed to restrict or remove public access to the lands referred to in the Aldershot and District Military Lands Byelaws 1976 that is to be implemented on behalf of DIO, MoD, Landmarc, or any other party.*

*In this context details means any information that would be useful in a layperson gaining a detailed understanding of said plans including but not limited to:*

- \* Maps of areas impacted*
- \* Dates when any work is to take place or enclosure to be enacted or access to be restricted*
- \* Type of enclosure / restriction*
- \* Whether there is to be a public consultation*
- \* Dates of any public consultation*
- \* Whether planning permission will be sought*
- \* A copy of any cost benefit analysis that has been completed (for the avoidance of doubt this is any analysis that discusses the potential benefits of a removal of public access and / or the associated social or financial cost)*
- \* Details of communications or plans for communications with local councils and / or local access forums and / or local MPs*
- \* Unredacted (minus any names but including positions of each attendee and information on other items discussed at the meeting) minutes of any Military Liaison Meeting where such plans have been discussed*
- \* The cost of each proposed fence/enclosure, broken down into the cost to DIO/MoD and any funding received or to be received from other parties (e.g. housing developer). For the purposes of this request, in this context funding means either monetary contribution or the estimated value of any material contribution (e.g. manpower, fencing supplies, etc)*
- \* Where a restriction of public access is expected or possible, please provide information on the nature of the restriction (e.g. allowing public use when training is not in place, opening gates at xmas, etc.) together with an estimated proportion of time that public access will be restricted*

*For the avoidance of doubt this should include (but not be limited to) any enclosure of any lands that would allow restriction of public use under the existing 1976 byelaws.*

*In order to narrow the scope of this enquiry, please restrict your search to plans that are to be implemented from the 1st January 2019 – note that if information exists that was created prior to this date that relates to plans implemented after this date, such information would still fall within the scope of this enquiry. In this context implemented means actions that would result in the public becoming aware of the plans such as the erection of a fence, restriction of access, signs, or other method of enclosure”*

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 the MOD has no plans for installing any fencing or barriers to restrict or remove public access on the defence training estate at Deepcut and Long Valley. There are future plans to erect 3 x 25 metre fences at Deepcut around the canal lock gate that borders area G2, and to erect 800 meters of fence on the western side of Rushmoor Road. However, these do not intend to restrict or remove public access as under the Aldershot and District Military Lands Byelaws 1976, the public do not have a right of access over this land.

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](mailto: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