



Ministry
of Defence

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Mr Andy Worms

26 June 2018

XXX@XXX

Dear Mr Worms,

Thank you for your email of 26 May in which you requested the following information:

"I would like to know of many of the Queen's Guards and how many horses and vehicles and of any type were deployed to the wedding of prince Harry and Meghan Merkle. Additionally, what was the budget of the operation of deploying the Queen's Guards at the wedding".

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held and is below.

A total of 125 Queen's Guards (of whom 42 were in the Band of the Irish Guards) were on duty at the wedding of Prince Harry and Megan Markle, along with 24 horses. There were 4 vehicles in use (1 x car, 1 x van and 2 x coaches). The Queen's Guards were already in Windsor on duty and therefore, there was no additional cost attributable to the wedding.

Under Section 16 (Advice & Assistance), you may find it useful to know that The Queen's Guards are classed as those that are on duty guarding Royal residence's and consist of the Household Division and the five Footguard Regiments; Grenadier Guards, Scots Guards, Welsh Guards, Irish Guards and Coldstream Guards. On occasion, personnel from other British Army units and the other Services (including from countries where the Queen is head of state) will be part of the Public Duties reinforcement team. This gives Service personnel the opportunity to be part of the Queen's Guards for a short period of time, on a temporary arrangement.

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 CIOFOI-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,

C Tyson
Army Secretariat