

UK Hydrographic Office 2021-2022 Annual Report released

News story

The UKHO's Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 to 2022 is available to view and download



The UK Hydrographic Office has released its Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 to 2022.

In addition to its performance review, accountability report and financial statements, the document contains a range of case studies that showcase the organisation's work to support safe, secure and thriving oceans.

You can download and view the document using the links below:

[UK Hydrographic Office Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 to 2022](#)

[UK Hydrographic Office Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 to 2022
\(accessible version\)](#)

The UKHO is an executive agency and operates as a trading fund within the Ministry of Defence. This paper was laid before Parliament in response to a legislative requirement or as a Return to an Address and was ordered to be printed by the House of Commons.

Published 19 August 2022

Role of Defence Training Estate

recognised in commando memorial unveiling

The plaque has been installed at Worbarrow Bay, which is part of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)-managed military training estate. The land provided a vital training area for the commando unit, which carried out the 'splinter' operation, known as Operation Cauldron, to immobilise German heavy artillery that posed a threat to the beach landing areas in France during WW2.

Following specialist training in Scotland, 4 Commando returned to Worbarrow to carry out crucial cliff scaling exercises in preparation for their task. On 19 August 1942, the commandos launched their raid alongside a Canadian unit, which came ashore under fire from mortars and machine guns. There were 5,000 casualties that day.

There is already a commemorative plaque at West Bay to remember the Canadian troops involved, but up until now, there has been no memorial to acknowledge the role of 4 Commando. Further to the memorial on the Defence Training Estate, a duplicate memorial, unveiled on the same day, will sit in the Weymouth memorial garden, which is used for local remembrance services.

DIO Regional Commander Colonel Tim Jalland, who unveiled the Worbarrow Bay memorial, said:

These Ranges, one of only two sites available for Armoured Fighting Vehicle Fire and Movement Exercises, remain one of the busiest Range complexes in the UK. In addition to their operational importance, the Ranges are located in a beautiful, historically significant and environmentally diverse part of the landscape, which the MOD takes pride in sustaining and maintaining for the Armed Forces and general public alike.

Naval historian and former Chairman of the Weymouth and Portland Residents Association, Alvin Hopper, is the inspiration behind the plaque, which he said will serve as an important reminder of the coastline's history as well as acknowledge the vital role played by the unit.

Mr Hopper said:

We should educate the younger people about their history. They don't get taught this at school, there's a lot that's missed out, especially the local history. Lots of visitors to the area will now be aware of the history. Hopefully, when they see the plaque, they will go and look it up. With the use of modern-day technology, they can get on-the-spot information.

In his naval role, Mr Hopper served in the mine warfare service, which became the Royal Naval Auxiliary Service, and he knows the Dorset coastline very well. He added that military training areas are as vital for troops today as they were then.

He said:

To have somewhere to train is vitally important. These dedicated training areas give our forces the edge, somewhere to hone their skills. Worbarrow Bay was crucial for 4 Commando because the terrain almost identically matched the terrain they would be facing on the raid.

The duplicate memorial plaque in Weymouth was unveiled by the Mayor of Weymouth, Councillor Ann Weaving and Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset Angus Campbell.

The Lulworth Ranges have provided armoured and dismounted live fire and manoeuvre training facilities for the UK Armed Forces since WW1. The land is part of the Defence Training Estate, which covers around one per cent of land in the UK and plays a vital role in preparing UK and visiting troops for operations across the globe. The UK training area covers 157,000 hectares and includes 9,000 buildings, 21m trees, 3,500km of tracks and more than 70 Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The estate supports training scenarios that include practising fighting in built-up areas, firing artillery, amphibious landings and assaults, driving tanks and firing from naval vessels and aircraft.

Regulator removes trustees and charity is wound up after trustee attempted to avoid business rates

The regulator found serious misconduct and/or mismanagement in the administration of the charity due to poor financial management and governance.

The Commission's inquiry found that the charity had made payments totalling £129,800 to Dasim Partners, a property development company of which two trustees, Sidney and David Chontow, were partners.

The charity's objects included the relief of poverty, assistance of the elderly, the advancement of education and the advancement of religion.

In 2013, Achiezer was included in a class inquiry conducted into charities which have defaulted on their statutory filing obligations with the Commission on two or more occasions in the last five years. During this class inquiry, concerns were identified about Achiezer's governance and financial management. The Commission opened a statutory inquiry into the charity in June 2015.

The inquiry concluded that the trustees had not managed the conflicts of interest, as there were no independent trustees, and the basis of these payments was unclear.

The regulator also concluded that one of the trustees, Sidney Chontow, had obtained personal benefit. Potential Investment Portfolio, of which Sidney Chontow was a partner, attempted to avoid paying £59,000 of business rates to Bury Metropolitan Borough Council, by letting out property to the charity. Potential Investment Portfolio would be liable for business rates on an empty property, whereas property used for charitable purposes is exempt. The charity became liable for the business rates when it was found that the property was not used solely for charitable purposes and therefore was not entitled to an exemption.

The inquiry also found that the trustees failed to properly manage the charity's funds and did not distinguish between the charity and other entities with which they were connected. The trustees did not effectively manage conflicts of interest, allowing numerous complex transactions to be made to related organisations and their personal companies.

The Commission concluded that the trustees' actions constituted serious mismanagement and/or misconduct. Sidney and David Chontow were removed as trustees in August 2020, and thus disqualified from acting as a charity trustee. Interim managers were appointed to the charity in October 2018 to take over the operational management, governance and administration of the charity, and secure the charity's property and assets.

Sidney Chontow paid the outstanding business rates to Bury Council and the charity's remaining funds, amounting to over £400,000, were distributed to charities with similar charitable aims. The charity was wound up and removed from the Commission's register of charities on 7 April 2022.

Amy Spiller, Head of Investigations at the Charity Commission said:

Trustees should manage their charities effectively and responsibly, including ensuring financial decisions are taken in the best interests of the charity.

The Chontows abused their position as trustees, to derive personal gain for themselves and their businesses to the detriment of the charity. It is right that they were removed as trustees, and that this charity has ceased to operate.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. The Charity Commission is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales. Its purpose is to ensure charity can thrive and inspire trust so that people can improve lives and strengthen society.
 2. The Commission opened the inquiry on 23 June 2015, following a class inquiry opened on 11 November 2013.
 3. View the full [inquiry report](#).
 4. The class inquiry into the other charity which had the same trustees, Achiezer Association Ltd, is ongoing.
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July 2022 Transaction Data

News story

This data provides information about the number and types of applications that HM Land Registry completed in July 2022.



Image credit: NicoElNino/Shutterstock.com

Please note this data shows what HM Land Registry has been able to process during the time period covered and is not necessarily a reflection of market activity.

In July:

- HM Land Registry completed more than 1,894,800 applications to change or query the Land Register

- the South East topped the table of regional applications with 444,212

HM Land Registry completed 1,894,807 applications in July compared with 1,839,118 in June and 1,802,037 last July 2021, of which:

- 370,643 were applications for register updates compared with 341,908 in June
- 993,000 were applications for an official copy of a register compared with 970,694 in June
- 240,387 were search and hold queries (official searches) compared with 239,495 in June
- 17,425 were postal applications from non-account holders compared with 15,942 in June

Applications by region and country

Region/country	May applications	June applications	July applications
South East	465,741	433,271	444,212
Greater London	366,243	328,559	341,840
North West	223,007	210,768	217,498
South West	195,283	180,421	188,241
West Midlands	166,826	154,776	160,208
Yorkshire and the Humber	152,418	144,885	149,387
East Midlands	145,726	133,895	137,248
North	95,723	90,354	91,801
East Anglia	83,057	79,765	79,497
Isles of Scilly	57	36	48
Wales	89,461	82,294	84,723
England and Wales (not assigned)	119	94	104
Total	1,983,661	1,839,118	1,894,807

Top 5 local authority areas

July 2022 applications

Top 5 local authority areas July applications

Birmingham	26,853
Leeds	22,345
City of Westminster	21,690

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Cornwall	21,380
Buckinghamshire	19,376

June 2022 applications

Top 5 local authority areas June applications

Birmingham	26,068
Leeds	21,930
City of Westminster	20,705
Buckinghamshire	19,025
Cornwall	18,139

Top 5 customers

July 2022 applications

Top 5 customers	July applications
Infotrack Limited	144,859
Enact	50,228
O'Neill Patient	30,896
Optima Legal Services	27,872
TM Group (UK) Ltd (Search Choice)	22,853

June 2022 applications

Top 5 customers	June applications
Infotrack Limited	138,726
Enact	46,821
O'Neill Patient	28,464
Optima Legal Services	26,301
TM Group (UK) Ltd (Search Choice)	20,468

[Access the full dataset on our Use land and property data service.](#)

Next publication

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