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RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Ref:18969

5 April 2024

Dear Steve,

In my response to your Parliamentary Questions UIN 18969 you were promised a written answer to the following question:

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, with reference to the Answer of 9 May 2023 to Question 183286 on Veterans: ID cards, how many veteran ID cards have been distributed by local authority area as of 18 March 2024.

The Armed Forces Veteran Card Scheme has had a two-phase rollout. Phase 1 is complete; all Service leavers since December 2018 automatically receive an HM Forces Veteran Card from MOD as part of their discharge process. Phase 2 extends access to the HM Armed Forces Veteran Card to those who left before December 2018. The new digital application and verification service launched at 00:01 on 28 January 2024 allowing pre-2018 Veterans to apply for the card.

As of 20 March 2024, a total of 79,330 cards have been despatched as part of the continuous Phase 1 rollout to service leavers. A total of 73,309 cards have been issued as part of the Phase 2 rollout to pre-2018 veterans who have applied for their card. The attached table shows the total number of cards distributed by local authority for Phase 1, and by postal county for Phase 2.

I am placing a copy of this letter and attachment in the Library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP

Steve McCabe MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA