



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE RETIRED OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION

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Dear Member.

I am writing to you to explain the rationale that the ROA Committee has taken in respect to the 2022 AGM/Reunion. Since the 2021 AGM/Reunion in Harrogate I have tried my best to find an hotel on the South Coast that would meet our requirements. One of the main considerations is the price, along with quality of hotel. Since October I have had the assistance of Julie Round who tirelessly searched the areas of Brighton, Eastbourne, and Chichester. Thank you, Julie, for your assistance it is much appreciated. Whilst Jenny and myself covered the Portsmouth and Southampton areas.

We found overall that the hospitality trade is enjoying a boom time since the relaxation of COVID restrictions, hence they have raised their prices. Last year we paid £255 per person in Harrogate. This year the closest we got it was £369 per person. This price increase was not acceptable.

We thought that we had found a hotel in Southsea, Portsmouth, but were beaten by a Wedding Party who jumped in behind us and took the slot. Julie found hotels that housed immigrant's that were totally unacceptable. Others had no parking or were not on public service routes.

I have been in contact with Airedale, the company who for many years organised our AGM/Reunions. They could not find anything that met our needs.

Therefore, having taken everything into consideration I am, in consultation with the Committee, cancelling the 2022 AGM/Reunion and are now looking at the Liverpool, Southport and Chester areas, but I must state that there is every likelihood that the cost will increase. We will however endeavour to maintain the standard within an acceptable price level as best we can. Our interest is in the membership and apologise for having to take this course of action.

Geoff Heal.

Chair MDP ROA.