



Ministry
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Ref: 2019/12965

[REDACTED]

16 December 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 16 November 2019 requesting the following information:

“Could you please advise as to the number of ATC cadets that have applied for enlistment to the RAF for the 7 year period to 2018/9? What proportion of the eligible cadets does this represent. How many and what proportion were successful?”

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, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The number of RAF applications received from personnel who declared their Air Training Corps (ATC) membership, and the number of intakes with ATC membership declared, for each of the last 7 years is as below:

| Year | Number of applications with declared ATC membership | Number of intakes with ATC membership declared |
|-----------|---|--|
| 2012/2013 | 2376 | 304 |
| 2013/2014 | 3341 | 387 |
| 2014/2015 | 2890 | 483 |
| 2015/2016 | 3008 | 527 |
| 2016/2017 | 2949 | 529 |
| 2017/2018 | 1892 | 527 |
| 2018/2019 | 3507 | 407 |

It is worth noting that the 2017/2018 figure may not capture all applications due to the introduction of a new reporting system and the requirement to process applications manually.

It is also worth noting that the recruitment process can take in excess of 12 months, the number of intakes in each recruiting year are not necessarily from those applications in that same recruiting year.

The RAF Air Cadets do not record individual RAF eligibility criteria for its members, and as such we are unable to provide you with the proportion of eligible cadets who successfully join the RAF

regulars. Under Section 16 (duty to provide Advice and Assistance) of the FOIA, you may find it useful to know that eligibility to join the RAF is determined by a number of factors, including qualifications, health, nationality and citizenship.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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 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,

Air Command Secretariat