



Ministry of Defence



Ref. [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for your email of 31 March 2016 where you requested the below information;

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to know the number of new recruits to the role of pilot to the RAF per month for the last 7 years.

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

We have taken 'new recruits to the role of pilot' to mean those applicants to the Pilot Branch who have successfully completed Officer Selection and are entering the Royal Air Force (RAF) Initial Officer Training (IOT) course prior to being trained as Pilots.

We have now completed a search for the information you requested and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. This information is provided in the table below. The Ministry of Defence does not record the number of new recruits per month, but rather the number of intakes to training.

| | 2009 Recruits | 2010 Recruits | 2011 Recruits | 2012 Recruits | 2013 Recruits | 2014 Recruits | 2015 Recruits |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| January | 20 | - | 10 | - | - | 10 | 10 |
| February | ~ | 30 | - | - | - | - | ~ |
| March | 20 | ~ | - | - | - | - | - |
| April | ~ | - | - | - | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| May | - | 20 | - | - | - | ~ | - |
| June | 20 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| July | ~ | 30 | - | - | ~ | 20 | 20 |
| August | 20 | ~ | - | - | - | - | - |
| September | 30 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| October | 10 | 30 | - | - | 10 | 20 | 10 |
| November | 30 | - | - | - | - | - | ~ |
| December | ~ | - | - | - | - | - | - |

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, data has been rounded to the nearest 10, where "-" denotes zero and "~" denotes a number less than or equal to 5. When rounding to the nearest 10,

numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias. Due to the rounding methods used, totals may not always equal the sum of the parts.

Under Section 16 (the duty to provide advice and assistance) of the FOI Act, you may wish to be aware that there was a recruitment freeze for new RAF pilot intakes onto the IOT course for financial years 2011/2012 and 2012/2013.

Moreover, you may wish to be aware that not all intakes eventually become trained strength pilots as not all recruits meet the required competencies.

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, 2nd 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 investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

[Original Signed]

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.