



Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

3 March 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2016 requesting the following information:

- 1. Within the Regional tier, how many Chairmen are former uniformed (VRT) personnel.*
- 2. In the event that individuals are formerly VRT personnel, what was their position immediately prior to their appointment as Regional Chairmen.*
- 3. In the event that a Regional Chairman retires, who oversees the selection process for a replacement as per ACP11 Ch 3 Para 5(a)*
- 4. Who is responsible for implementation of ACP11 Ch 3 para 5(b), and what safeguards are in place, to ensure that nominations under Ch3 Para 5(a), have precedence over Ch3 para 5(b)*
- 5. Is an Appeal panel, established under Annex b para 12, and chaired by a Regional Chairman, required to make a formal disclosure to the ACC, and is that disclosure discussed and minuted.*
- 6. What safeguards are in place to ensure that former VRT Personnel appointed to a Regional Chair position, represent the Civilian voice (ACP11 Ch 1 para 13)., and that they are not aligned to undermine or negate the civilian voice, by other influences or loyalties.*

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.

Four of the current Regional Chairman within the Air Cadet Organisation are former Volunteer Reserve (Training) (VR(T)) personnel. Prior to their appointments as Regional

Chairmen two were Officers Commanding Wings and two were Wing Chairmen. Recorded information for questions three to six is not held.

Section 1 of the FOIA gives an applicant the right to recorded information held by public authorities at the time the request is made and does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless the recorded information is held. Should you continue to submit requests that do not ask for recorded information but are asking for opinion or explanations the department may not provide a response.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you 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, 1st 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed]

Air Director Resources Secretariat
Air Command