



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2017/6663

[REDACTED]

20 July 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 6 July 2017 asking about the diesel and dye used by the Red Arrows. You requested the following information:

*"How many litres of diesel and dye are used and dispersed per training session?
Are there any environmentally friendly alternatives in the pipeline?"*

I am treating your correspondence as requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search of our paper and electronic records for the information you requested and I can confirm that information within the scope of your request is held.

Training sessions can vary in length and therefore the amount of diesel or dye that is used can differ considerably. However, we can say that each of the Hawk aircraft carries some 220 litres of diesel and dye which could if necessary produce around five minutes of vapour.

There are currently no plans to change either the method of production or the type of dye used which was chosen last year following competitive tender. All bidders were required to demonstrate compliance with current UK regulations.

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, 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



Secretariat 3a1
Air Command