



# Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref: 2014-05734

[REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

5 November 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 9 October 2014 requesting the following information:

*Could you please confirm the number of personnel from the RAF TG12 (Aerospace Systems Operators/Managers) who have applied for Early Termination (ET) of service in the period 1 April 2012 – 1 October 2014.*

*Could you also please confirm the number of those personnel above who requested release ahead of the Minimum Waiting Time (MWT) as a result of a firm employment offer during that period.*

*Finally, could you please confirm the number of those personnel who requested release ahead of the MWT during that period who had their requests approved.*

*I would be grateful if you could break totals down by rank when providing information.*

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 personnel who requested Early Termination (ET) ahead of the MWT and the number of those personnel who applied for ET as a result of a firm offer of employment is shown in the table below. However, there is no requirement for personnel to record their reason for requesting ET. Therefore, this information is only provided for those personnel who chose to record this information and may not provide an accurate account.

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.

<b>Rank of Personnel in RAF TG12 who have applied for ET</b>	<b>Number of Personnel who applied for ET between 1 April 2012 – 1 October 2014</b>	<b>Number of those personnel who applied for ET ahead of the MWT as a result of a firm offer of employment</b>
SAC	20	~
Cpl	10	-
Sgt	20	~
FS	~	~
WO	10	~

All applications for ET from personnel in TG12 between 1 April 2012 and 1 October 2014 were supported and approved.

Under Section 16 of the FOI Act you may find it useful to know that the Minimum Waiting Times (MWT) for Trade Group 12 (TG12) Aerospace Systems Operators and Airspace Systems Managers is six months. MWT are in place to ensure that the RAF has sufficient time in which to replace an individual. However, personnel may be permitted to leave earlier than the MWT with the agreement of the Unit concerned who must be prepared to absorb the manning gap in that position for the time period between the early requested release date and the MWT elapsed date.

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](mailto: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