



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/02368 and 02514

[REDACTED]

23 March 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mails of 23 and 25 February 2016 asking for information about aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) numbers.

You requested the following information:

- "1) The Royal Air Force's existing manned aircraft inventory, broken down by aircraft type, and including the total number of each type of aircraft in the Air Force's inventory.*
- 2) The Royal Air Force existing unmanned/ RPAS / UAV inventory, broken down by platform type, and including the total number of each type of platform in the Air Force's inventory.*
- 3) The British Army existing unmanned/ RPAS / UAV inventory, broken down by platform type, and including the total number of each type of platform in the Army's inventory."*

And

"I would like to request information regarding a Ministry of Defence response to a parliamentary 'written question' (ref. 225371) asked by Angus Robertson on 25 February 2015 and responded to by the Ministry of Defence (Mr Julian Brazier specifically) on 4 March 2015 (see: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-02-25/225371>). The Ministry of Defence helpfully provided a table detailing the composition of the UK's aircraft fleet, broken down by platform. I would like to ask for you to clarify which branch of the British Armed Forces uses each platform (ie. Royal Air Force, British Army, Royal Navy). If possible, I would also like to ask whether there are any updates on the figures for each platform (ie. how many of each are operated)."

I am treating your correspondence as a requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). For ease I will provide a combined response. After a search

of our records I can confirm that information is held within the scope of your request. Numbers by service of fixed wing and rotary aircraft as at 1 March 2016 are given at table A. It excludes contractor owned fleets, although Voyager (which is contractor owned) has been included for completeness. King Air B200, Viking and Vigilant fleets do not differentiate between forward and sustainment fleets. Details of UAV numbers for the RAF and Army as at 1 March 2016 are given in Annex B.

The forward fleet comprises serviceable and short term unserviceable aircraft. Typically the short term unserviceable aircraft are those undergoing minor work. The sustainment fleet includes aircraft undergoing deep maintenance, upgrade programmes or being held in storage. It excludes those declared redundant, surplus or awaiting decommissioning or disposal.

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,



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