



# Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref: [REDACTED]



26 March 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 25 February 2015 requesting the following information:

*The number of personnel who have left the RAF whilst under the Return of Service (RoS) laid down under Financial Retention Initiatives (FRI) 2 and 3 since 2007. I request this be summarised by both year and FRI type and indicating what proportion of these were compassionate cases.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). The information that you have requested is shown in the table below. Due to the number of cases I cannot provide a breakdown of the FRI type as this would breach the Data Protection Act.

<b>Number of personnel released within FRI 2 and 3 RoS</b>	
<b>2007</b>	-
<b>2008</b>	-
<b>2009</b>	-
<b>2010</b>	~
<b>2011</b>	~
<b>2012</b>	~
<b>2013</b>	~
<b>2014</b>	-

2015	-
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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.

I am unable to provide information on the number of cases where compassionate circumstances were considered as this would require the retrieval of personnel records from privately contracted archives which would incur a cost. It is estimated that to retrieve and interrogate the records to establish the number of compassionate cases would exceed the appropriate cost limit.

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, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed]

