



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/10000

[REDACTED]

22 November 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 25 October 2016 asking about flying hours and maintenance costs for Typhoon and Tornado. You requested the following information:

"...military aircraft operating, maintenance and/or support costs for the Eurofighter Typhoon and Panavia Tornado. Specifically, for each of these aircraft, we're requesting the following figures for each of the last two fiscal years:

1. *The total number of aircraft contained in each aircraft's:*
 - a. *In-service fleet (aircraft in active fleet management, or forward fleet).*
 - b. *Total fleet (both forward and depth fleets combined).*
2. *The number of hours flown by each aircraft's total fleet.*
3. *The total amount spent on field maintenance labor for the aircraft's total fleet.*
4. *The total amount spend on field maintenance material for the aircraft's total fleet.*
5. *The total amount spent on each aircraft total fleet for depot maintenance for:*
 - a. *Airframes*
 - b. *Engines*
 - c. *Components*
 - d. *Any other type of depot maintenance."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request 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 some information within the scope of your request is held.

The balance of aircraft in the forward and sustainment fleets fluctuates over the course of a financial year. Details of aircraft numbers for each aircraft type broken down between the forward and sustainment fleets can be found on the government website at the following links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-released-by-mod-week-commencing-3-august-2015>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-published-by-mod-week-commencing-18-april-2016>

Details of flying hours for the two aircraft fleets are given in the table below:

	FY2014/15	FY2015/16
Typhoon	17,550	19,650
Tornado	14,390	14,340

Information relating to maintenance costs is not held in the format you have requested. However, maintenance for both fleets is provided by support contracts with industry. The contract costs for financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16 are given in the table below.

	Costs FY2014/15	Costs FY2015/16
Typhoon	£95.8M	£91.1M
Tornado	£123.0M	£177.5M

The costs include both depth and forward fleet maintenance costs for each fleet of aircraft. This cost will include support elements such as upgrades to the airframe, maintenance to ensure availability of the fleets, parts and labour costs.

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, 2nd 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


Secretariat 3a1
Air Command