



Ministry  
of Defence

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Ref: FOI2016/05727

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

8<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 requesting the following information:

- "1) How many Pilots in the Royal Navy are expected to commence Elementary Flying Training from June 2016 until February 2017?"*
- 2) How many of these EFT Royal Navy pilots are estimated to be selected for Fast Jet training from June 2016 until February 2017?"*
- 3) What are the Operational Conversion Unit vacancies for Navy Pilots who have completed Rotary wing pilot training for 2017? i.e. 3 Merlin places, 2 Wildcat Places, 1 Apache place.*
- 4) How many Royal Navy pilots are currently operating within RAF and AAC Squadrons and also how many RN pilots are currently on overseas exchange postings."*

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The answers to your questions can be found at the attached Annex – Annex A/FOI2016/05727 08/06/16.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Zone N, 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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

Q1) How many Pilots in the Royal Navy are expected to commence Elementary Flying Training from June 2016 until February 2017?

A1) Estimated as 25

Q2) How many of these EFT Royal Navy pilots are estimated to be selected for Fast Jet training from June 2016 until February 2017?

A2) Estimated as 6-7

Q3) What are the Operational Conversion Unit vacancies for Navy Pilots who have completed Rotary wing pilot training for 2017? i.e. 3 Merlin places, 2 Wildcat Places, 1 Apache place.

A3) 9 x Merlin Mk2  
4 x Merlin Mk3  
7 x Wildcat HMA  
2 x Wildcat BRH

Please note that these figures are subject to change.

Q4) How many Royal Navy pilots are currently operating within RAF and AAC Squadrons and also how many RN pilots are currently on overseas exchange postings.

A4) RAF

- 2 x Rotary Wing pilots on CH 47 exchange with the RAF
- 2 x Fixed Wing pilots on Non Reciprocal Exchange (NRE) with the RAF Typhoon
- 1 x Fixed Wing pilot on NRE with RAF Hawk 100 Sqn
- 1 x Rotary Wing pilot serving on XIII Sqn (RPAS)
- 1 x Rotary Wing pilot Flying Instructor on King Air with 45 Sqn.

AAC

- 3 x Rotary Wing pilots on AH NRE AAC AHF
- 3 x Rotary Wing pilots (QHI) on WC BRH 652 Sqn AAC
- 2 x Rotary Wing pilots (QHI) on Operational Trg 670 Sqn AAC

USA

- 2 x Rotary Wing pilots on exchange with the USMC (AH1 Cobra and MV22)
- 7 x Fixed Wing pilots on NRE with the USN F 18
- 3 x Fixed Wing pilots on NRE with USMC AV8B
- 1 x Fixed Wing Test Pilot at USN TPS Pax River- JSF Test Pilot
- 1 x Rotary Wing pilot serving on exchange as a US Navy Test Pilot Instructor.

AUSTRALIA

- 1 x Rotary Wing pilot on MRH 90 exchange with the Royal Australian Navy.

FRANCE

- 1 x Rotary Wing pilot on Panther exchange serving with the French Navy.

