



# Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2017/252

[REDACTED]

31 January 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 9 January 2017 which sought clarification of my previous FOI response of 3 January 2017. You requested the following information:

*"Further to your letter of 3rd January, am I to understand that the 2016 RAF Cosford-organised air display was not subject to the CAP 403 regulations in respect of military flight paths and that there was therefore no requirement on the Airshow Organiser to submit the RACN (1920D) permission form to CAA in either hard copy or electronic format?"*

*I find it bizarre that there is no written record of a Health and Safety risk assessment regarding potential risk to spectators, whether paying or non-paying (Sect 1.3 of CAP 403) or to their property. Does the Restricted Airspace (Temporary) application not have some reference to avoidance of potential local damage? Surely this document must have been presented to the local Airshow Committee which I understand includes parish councillors as part of the forward planning. I find it inconceivable that such an important application can be made by telephone even given the deserved level of confidence that the CAA would have in the RAF's airshow planning."*

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 information within the scope of your request is held.

Firstly, the RAF takes the safety of the public attending the RAF Cosford Airshow and in the surrounding area extremely seriously and the organisers are required to undertake a full Safety and Risk Assessment which must be approved by the Air Office Commanding 22 Training Group.

I can confirm that the RAF Cosford Airshow is a military airshow and follows Military Aviation Authority (MAA) regulations (Regulatory Article 2335) rather than Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) regulations. That having been said, MAA regulations will cross refer to the CAA CAP 403 regulations in certain respects where they represent recognised best practice. The CAA does not require the RAF to submit a "Request for Airspace Coordination

*and Notification (1920D)*” form to organise an airshow as long as the organisers provide them with the information they require.

Restricted Airspace (Temporary) relates to the organisation of airspace and authority for civilian and military aircraft to enter or pass through a specified area. It may be helpful to note that the “*Request for Airspace Coordination and Notification (1920D)*” which can be found at the link below, is not itself an application form for Restricted Airspace (Temporary).

[https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/E\\_Live\\_V3\\_FormID75\\_DAP1920D\\_AirspaceCoordination.pdf](https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/E_Live_V3_FormID75_DAP1920D_AirspaceCoordination.pdf)

Rather, as indicated on the form, airshow organisers may make *initial* contact with the CAA by telephone to discuss their airspace requirements as part of a detailed CAA decision process. The potential need for Restricted Airspace (Temporary) is just one of the considerations that would be covered by the overall Safety and Risk Assessment mentioned above.

Although parish councillors from Albrighton and Donington are not members of the Airshow Committee they are fully briefed in advance by the RAF on plans for the airshow including safety measures at the event itself and in the surrounding area.

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, 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