

AG/P/LM/20130920

20 Sep 13

CE SPVA

Copy to:

OVERPAYMENT OF RECRUITING & RETENTION PAY (FLYING) TO ARMY PILOTS

1. You will be aware that we have been investigating the overpayment of Recruiting and Retention Pay (Flying) (RRP(F)) for well over 12 months now. Following scrutiny of the entire pilot cohort (both serving and retired personnel), a Defence Internal Audit Report and the collation of a significant amount of supporting evidence, we feel that we have a compelling case to write off a Net Public Debt of c£829k. We have found the overpayment that had taken place since 2007 has been as a result of administrative errors rather than the fault of those individuals in receipt of RRP(F).

2. The impact of not writing off this debt will result in a financial impact that will grossly exceed (by multiple orders of magnitude) the level of Net Public Debt that would be recovered. In short, the purpose of RRP(F) is to retain a specialist cohort; by demanding recovery, despite the numerous errors in process, we will be working against retention and defeating the original purpose of the RRP(F).

DG Pers