



# Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref 2015 03738

8 May 2015

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 11 April 2015 requesting the following information:

Please can you provide me with up to date figures for the number of personnel who have, during the past 4 tax years been discharged from the Royal Air Force for failing to pass the RAF Fitness Test. I would like the information broken down by rank if possible.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, I can advise that personnel are not discharged based solely on them failing their RAF fitness test, which is just one element to be considered when recommending discharge. Administrative Action taken against an individual following failure of the RAF fitness test is done so to address their *attitude* to personal physical fitness, and not just the failure itself. With that caveat, information taken from the Air Personnel Casework database shows the number of personnel discharged as follows:

Period: 1 Apr 2011 to 31 Mar 2015

Flight Lieutenant	~
Officer Cadet	~
Corporal	~
Senior Aircraftman	30

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, data have been rounded to the nearest 10, where "0" 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. Percentages have been calculated from unrounded data.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact this office 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 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,

HQ Air Command  
Secretariat 2a