



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/07989

[REDACTED]

9 September 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 22 August 2016 asking for aircraft numbers and flying hours. You requested the following information for a range of military aircraft:

1. *Number of aircraft in service (including active with a unit, in reserve/flyable store, and undergoing/awaiting scheduled depot maintenance, and excluding aircraft in non-flyable store)*
2. *Number of aircraft active with frontline units*
3. *Flight hours per year for the fleet (i.e. the utilization rate)*

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 and provided at the attached annex.

The forward fleet comprises those serviceable and short term unserviceable aircraft in use with active squadrons. Typically the short term unserviceable aircraft are undergoing the type of minor work that arises on a day to day basis at a flying squadron. The sustainment fleet includes aircraft undergoing deep maintenance, upgrade programmes or being held in storage. It excludes those declared redundant, surplus or awaiting decommissioning or disposal. Aircraft numbers are as at 1 March 2016. Flying hours cover the entire fleet and are rounded to the nearest ten.

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 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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely



Secretariat 3a1
Air Command

**Annex A to FOI
2016/07989**

Aircraft Type	Forward Fleet 1 March 2016	Sustainment Fleet 1 March 2016	Total 1 March 2016	Flying Hours FY 15/16
Typhoon	89	43	132	19,650
Tornado	51	32	83	14,340
Voyager	9	0	9	15,030
Atlas	7	0	7	2,090
Tucano	26	55	81	6,930
AW109	1	0	1	480
Sea King AsaC7	7	1	8	2,010
Merlin	41	22	63	8,500
Lynx	30	1	31	6,830
Lynx Wildcat	34	21	55	5,760