



# Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref: FOI2015/08727

[Redacted]

E-mail: [Redacted]

27 October 2015

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 October asking for details about positive drug test statistics at RAF Northolt. You have specifically asked the following:

*During the years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and so far in 2015, how many pilots or other RAF personnel at RAF Northolt failed a drugs test?*

*By failing a drugs test, I refer to a banned substance being found in a sample. For example cocaine, ecstasy etc.*

*Please mention the year the person failed the test.*

*For each, can you also please name the drug that was found in his/her system?*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

After a search of our records I can confirm that information is held within the scope of your request.

The number of positive drug tests for RAF personnel at RAF Northolt can be seen in the following table:

YEAR	POSITIVES	DRUG
2005	-	
2006	-	
2007	-	
2008	-	
2009	-	
2010	~	cocaine, MDMA (Ecstasy)
2011	~	cocaine, MDMA
2012	~	cocaine, Benzodiazepine, steroid
2013	10	MDMA, steroid
2014	-	
2015	-	

Due to the small populations generated by this level of detail, and the possibility of identifying individual personnel, data have been rounded to 10 and therefore totals may not always equal the sum of the parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the

nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias, "-" denotes zero and "~" a number less than or equal to 5.

The number of positive tests for RAF pilots was zero for the period requested.

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, 1st 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Air-DRes Sec 3b  
Air Secretariat  
Air Command