



Ministry of Defence

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

Our Ref: FOI2017/06820

27 July 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of the 12 July 2017 about Notice to Airmen No.DO578/17, issued on 31 May 2017.

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

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested. The answers to your questions are below:

1. **The names of the radar sites at which the maintenance is taking place?** Deadwater Fell.
2. **Which radar equipment has been withdrawn from service?** The Watchman Primary Surveillance Radar (PSR) and Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR).
3. **The nature of the maintenance being undertaken?** Routine testing and evaluation of the new radar system, STAR 2000 PSR and RSM 970S MSSR.
4. **The mitigation measures employed to maintain air traffic safety during the period of maintenance?** RAF Spadeadam has access to a number of other radar sources to provide radar coverage across the range. Due to the terrain and position of other radars, controllers may reduce Air Traffic Services (ATS) at low-level for range users. Danger Area EG D510/A is segregated airspace inside which range users must be positively identified by RAF Spadeadam Air Traffic Control, be in 2-way radio communications and under an ATS whilst operating in the range. RAF Spadeadam have an agreement with Newcastle and Carlisle Airports to notify of any General Air Traffic (GAT) transiting close to the range, and where appropriate to facilitate a handover to RAF Spadeadam in order to de-conflict such General Air Traffic (GAT) from range activity.

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, Ground 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



Air Command Secretariat