



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref: 2017/05256

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

2 June 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your emails of 18 April 2017 and 4 May 2017 requesting the following information:

'The reason for this email is because we have noticed a general drop in the number of qualified aircraft technicians across Europe. A number of EASA part 147 approved colleges have also confirmed a decreasing trend in personnel completed their training.'

'Would you be able to inform me on the number of qualified Aircraft technicians the Royal air force have recruited each year since 2007.'

'I am looking for the number of individuals who join the RAF to become an aircraft technicians.'

'Would it be also possible to receive this for the previous 5 years?'

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

A search for the information requested has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. This information can be found attached at Annex A.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may wish to be aware, due to disparity in the recording process pre-recruiting year 2007/2008 (RY 2007/08), the data recorded in the five years previous to RY 2007/08 may not give an accurate

reflection of the numbers of individuals applying to join the RAF as aircraft technicians.

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, 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,

[Original Signed]

**Air Director Resources Secretariat
Air Command**

	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
AMM(Av)	Information not held	Information not held	11	8	21
AMM(M)	Information not held	Information not held	9	13	44
TOTAL	Information not held	Information not held	20	21	65

	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
AMM(Av)	299	404	332	101	84	63	77	113	210	174
AMM(M)	125	423	292	153	158	113	175	169	195	180
TOTAL	424	827	624	254	242	176	252	282	405	354

Caveats:

1. The statistics provided are by Recruiting Year (1 Apr – 31 Mar).
2. There are two aircraft technician trades included in this data; Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic (Avionics) (AMM(Av)) and Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic (Mechanical) (AMM(M)). These are broken down by trade for clarity.
3. The data does not include remusterees.
4. The statistics show those candidates who applied to join the RAF as an AMM(AV) or AMM(M) and had an intake date to start Phase 1 training. They are not qualified aircraft technicians at this stage. They train for their qualifications at Phase 2 training.
5. Due to disparity in the recording process pre-recruiting year 2007/2008, the data recorded in the five years previous to RY 2007/8 may not give an accurate reflection of the numbers of individuals applying to join the RAF as aircraft technicians.