

Ref: FOI2018/05816

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

25 May 2018

Dear

Thank you for your email of 27 April 2018 requesting the following information:

My request was for a specific titled document - the Low Flying Operations Squadron Wind Farm Assessment Criteria Briefing Document - a reference to which was contained in a recent wind farm planning application. From your response it would appear that no such specifically titled document exists. However I would like to request whatever equivalent document or documents exist - the document(s) providing guidance to LFOS staff on how to assess wind farm proposals referred to them by the Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

In our letter of the 17 April 2018 you were provided a link to the MOD Obstruction Lighting Guidance document. This is the reference document currently in use by the Royal Air Force.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find the following link helpful https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wind-farms-ministry-of-defence-safeguarding/wind-farms-mod-safeguarding, which contains contact information for the MOD Safeguarding team who are responsible for considering development proposals, including those for wind turbines. Additionally, if you have any further queries please provide a copy of the wind farm planning application you refer to in the FOI request above.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be

contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely,

HQ Air Command Secretariat