



Ministry  
of Defence

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

Ref. 2018/08670

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

31 July 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to your email of 29 June 2018 requesting the following information:

- “1. Of those currently working full time in the RAF, how many have an MBA (Master of Business Administration)*
- 2. For how many jobs is an MBA required in the job description?*
- 3. For how many jobs is an MBA desired or optional in the job description?*
- 4. How many MBAs do you fund a year?”*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. 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. I will answer each of your questions in turn.

1. The total number of current Royal Air Force (RAF) employees, as at 10 July 2018, with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) qualification recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system is 119.
2. There are no jobs in the RAF which list an MBA as a required qualification in the job description.

3. There are no jobs in the RAF which list an MBA as a desired or optional qualification in the job description.
4. The RAF does not directly fund any MBAs. However, the RAF do select candidates for 10 MBA places each year for the part-time MBA delivered by Cranfield University, with funding provided by the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom which is available to all ranks, Branches and Trades. A part-time MBA degree from Staffordshire University is also available to all personnel based on the recognition of prior learning. This degree is self-funded by individuals, however, they are able to use Learning Credits, a learning support funding scheme for military personnel, to support part of the costs.

Under Section 16(1) of the FOIA, which requires public authorities to provide advice and guidance wherever possible, please note that the recording of educational qualifications is not mandated. Therefore, the answer provided for question 1 only reflects the number of personnel who have chosen to record their qualification on JPA and should be considered as neither definitive nor precise.

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 (email [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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 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 Officer, 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,

[Original Signed]

Air Command Secretariat