



# Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2018/9790

[REDACTED]

2 August 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 20 July requesting information about RAF Quick Reaction Alert launches in 2015. You requested the following information:

*"Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to receive any information held by the Ministry of Defence relating to RAF Quick Reaction Alerts (QRAs) on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015. Specifically;*

*Any coordination with Ireland."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search of our paper and electronic records for the information you have requested and I can confirm that information within the scope of your request is not held.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the Act you may wish to note that the RAF's Air Surveillance and Control System at RAF Boulmer is fully integrated with our NATO allies and the NATO Combined Air Operations Centre at Uedem in Germany, which manages NATO's response to such activity. This allows NATO to react in good time to aircraft approaching its airspace. Responsibility for monitoring and intercepting aircraft approaching NATO airspace is shared between NATO allies.

However, the Republic of Ireland is not part of the NATO air defence system and is responsible for the defence of its own sovereign airspace. The UK does not co-ordinate its Quick Reaction Alert activities with, nor does it have any responsibility for the air defence of, the Republic of Ireland.

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-](mailto:CIO-)

FOI-IR@mod.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



Secretariat 3a1  
Air Command