



Ministry  
of Defence

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

Ref: 2018/11001

[REDACTED]

25 Sept 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 30 August 2018, which has been considered to be a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

In your e-mail you requested the following:

*"I would be grateful if you would provide statistics regarding the RAF Regiment trade. Specifically I would be grateful for the following data:*

- 1. What is the average length of service an SAC Gunner will serve before being allocated to an FT1 course.*
- 2. Once completed FT1 what is the percentage of SAC Gunners who will be promoted, and of that what percentage will be within 12 months of completion of the FT1 course.*
- 3. In the last 3 years what is the percentage of SAC Gunners waiting for availability FT1 Course, but unable to attend due to lack of places."*

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

In answer to your first question, the average length of service for a SAC Gunner to reach Lance Corporal (LCpl) is 6 years and 11 months.

In answer to your second question, raw data is not held in a format that can be used to calculate the percentages.

In answer to your third question, the percentage of SAC Gunners waiting for availability on FT1 Course but unable to attend due to lack of places is 0%.

With regard to your second question, under Section 16 of the FOI Act (the duty to provide advice and assistance), to be helpful, please be advised that completion of a FT1 course does not guarantee promotion; it is an individual's annual report, which includes a narrative and recommendation, that provide the basis for promotion. Furthermore, the year of a FT1 pass is not directly related to the year of promotion.

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](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 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