

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

4 February 2020

Dear

Thank you for your letter of 20 January 2020 requesting the following information:

"I have been told Air Commodore McCafferty had a 'genuine reason' to attend the meeting in full RAF uniform (see attached). My request is for details of this genuine reason."

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.

The information you have requested can be found at annex A, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at sections 40(2) (Personal Data) and has been redacted.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that Air Commodore McCafferty intended to travel to Luton, immediately after the Planning Development Committee meeting concluded, where she was due to attend a funeral in her official capacity as Commandant Air Cadets. Due to the timings of the two events she had no opportunity for clothing changes.

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 <a href="CIO-F01-1R@mod.clov.uk">CIO-F01-1R@mod.clov.uk</a>). 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 <a href="https://ico.orctuk/">https://ico.orctuk/</a>.

Yours sincerely,

**HQ Air Command Secretariat** 

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