



Ministry  
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI 2020/10759

[REDACTED]

22 October 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 September 2020 requesting the following information:

*"I am looking for information relating to Officer and Aircrew Selection for the 7 years between 2013/14 and 2019/20, or the 7 closest span of data available.*

*In particular I am interested in the following:*

- 1. The number of personnel who attended OASC each year that were not serving at that time of application.*
- 2. The number of personnel who applied for transfer from the other ranks to a commission through the ICS.*
- 3. The number and proportion of those ICS applicants who attended OASC, failed selection, and returned to the ranks.*

*I have access to FOI 2019/13159 which, at para 2 does give me the numbers of other ranks personnel who were selected for IOT, in other words (I believe) they must therefore have passed OASC. Do you have the number of personnel for the year 2019/20 so that I may update my table?"*

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.

Please be advised that under FOIA a Public Authority is not required to create new information to answer the request. However, answers can be derived from the below table in response to your request.

Recruitment Year (RY)	Non-Current Serving Applicants - Attended Officer and Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC)	Internal Commissioning Scheme (ICS) Applicants - Applications	ICS Applicants - Attended OASC	ICS Applicants - Allocated to Initial Officer Training (IOT) Intake
2013/2014	192	465	200	51
2014/2015	578	396	260	104
2015/2016	662	546	247	88
2016/2017	744	544	360	138
2017/2018	823	365	360	189
2018/2019	802	732	353	181
2019/2020	823	618	500	51

**Caveats:**

1. ICS applications are those who have declared current service on their Application.
2. The data only includes applications processed via the digital recruitment system.
3. Non-Current Serving applicants are those who were not serving at the time of their application.
4. Includes Regular RAF Officer applicants only.
5. The figures provided in each column are not correlated, i.e. those allocated to OASC and IOT date are not necessarily from applications within that same RY.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it useful to know that all Service Personnel from the Other Ranks are required to apply for IOT through the ICS. As applicants are not required to leave the Service to apply to the ICS, it is assumed that all unsuccessful ICS applicants have returned to the ranks.

Please note that the 2017/2018 application figures may not be inclusive of all applications due to the introduction of a new reporting system which required some applications to be processed manually.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. 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 normally investigate your case until the MoD internal 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,

[Original signed]

Air Command Secretariat