



Ministry
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
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Ref: FOI2022/08072

[REDACTED]

2 August 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 4 July 2022 in which you requested the following information:

"Please find below a request for information that I'm unable to find on open-source internet searches, FOI releases, publications or by means of contacting service personnel at RAF Manning/Promotions. The request for information follows a sequential order for the last 5 reporting periods (September to September, 2017 to 2021) with information pertaining to Promotion Selection Boards sat in circa May the following year.

Definitions –

Service numbers changed in April 2006 with the introduction of the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system.

***Older** style service numbers (pre April 2006) refer to those service numbers that start with a letter followed by numbers for example A1234567*

***New** style service numbers (post April 2006) refer to those which start with a number three and are wholly made up by numbers for example 30012345*

*A **Reduced** Joint Medical Employment Standard (JMES) with Medically Limited Deployability (MLD) or Medically Not Deployable (MND) marker refers to those Service Persons whose JMES is below that of A4 L1 M4 E1.*

***Full** JMES refers to those SPs with a JMES of A4 L1 M4 E1 or higher with a Medically Fully Deployable (MFD) marker.*

A. Information required for the reporting period **2020/2021** – Questions 1 to 6 (below)

1 Within Trade Group (TG) **1 Avionics & Mechanical** trades at the **Corporal** rank –

a. How many Service Persons (SP) were there serving total?

- b. How many SPs were there serving with an **older** style service number total?
- c. How many SPs were there serving with a **new** style service number total?
- d. How many SPs were there serving with a **reduced** JMES total?
- e. How many SPs were there serving with a **full** JMES total?
- f. How many SPs were there serving with an **older** style service number and a **reduced** JMES?
- g. How many SPs were there serving with a **new** style service number and a **full** JMES?

2 Out of those serving –

- a. How many SPs were eligible for promotion?
- b. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with an **older** style service number total?
- c. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a **new** style service number total?
- d. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a **reduced** JMES total?
- e. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a **full** JMES total?
- f. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with an **older** style service number and a **reduced** JMES?
- g. How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a **new** style service number and a **full** JMES?

3 Out of those eligible for promotion –

- a. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates total?
- b. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with an **older** style service number total?
- c. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a **new** style service number total?
- d. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a **reduced** JMES total?
- e. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a **full** JMES total?
- f. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with an **older** style service number and a **reduced** JMES?
- g. How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a **new** style service number and a **full** JMES?

4 Out of those 'A' Candidates –

- a. How many SPs featured on the Promotion Selection Board (PSB) produced Merit of Order List (MOL)?
- b. How many SPs with an **older** style service number featured on the PSB produced MOL?
- c. How many SPs with a **new** style service number featured on the PSB produced MOL?

- d. How many SPs with a **reduced** JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?
- e. How many SPs with a **full** JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?
- f. How many SPs with an **older** style service number and a **reduced** JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?
- g. How many SPs with a **new** style service number and a **full** JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?

5 Out of those featured on the PSB produced MOL –

- a. How many SPs were released to the Promotion Selection List (PSL)
- b. How many SPs were released to the PSL with an **older** style service number?
- c. How many SPs were released to the PSL with a **new** style service number?
- d. How many SPs were released to the PSL with a **reduced** JMES
- e. How many SPs were released to the PSL with a **full** JMES?
- f. How many SPs were released to the PSL with an **older** style service number and a **reduced** JMES?
- g. How many SPs were released to the PSL with a **new** style service number and a **full** JMES?

6 Once the two (AV & Mech) PSLs closed did the next SP on the MOL (i.e. was not made an offer of promotion) either have an older style service number a reduced JMES or both.

- B. Information required for the reporting period **2019/2020** – Questions 1 to 6 inclusive (above)
- C. Information required for the reporting period **2018/2019** – Questions 1 to 6 inclusive (above)
- D. Information required for the reporting period **2017/2018** – Questions 1 to 6 inclusive (above)
- E. Information required for the reporting period **2016/2017** – Questions 1 to 6 inclusive (above)”

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, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

Please find information relating to Trade Group (TG) 1 (Avionics and Mechanical) for Promotion Selection Boards (PSB) and Promotion Selection Lists (PSL) for years 2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 attached at Annex A.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, data have been rounded to the nearest 10. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias. “~” denotes a number less than or equal to 5.

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). 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,

Air Command Secretariat

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Annex A – Data relating to TG 1 PSB and PSL.

1. Within Trade Group (TG) 1 Avionics & Mechanical trades at the Corporal rank

	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21	
	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical
How many Service Persons (SP) were there serving total?	620	770	610	740	600	710	550	640	500	600
How many SPs were there serving with an older style service number total?	200	480	150	380	120	310	100	250	90	230
How many SPs were there serving with a new style service number total?	410	280	460	360	480	400	450	400	410	370
How many SPs were there serving with a reduced JMES total?	120	160	120	180	120	170	120	150	130	160
How many SPs were there serving with a full JMES total?	500	610	490	560	470	540	430	490	370	430
How many SPs were there serving with an older style service number and a reduced JMES?	60	120	40	120	40	90	40	70	40	80
How many SPs were there serving with a new style service number and a full JMES?	350	240	390	300	390	320	360	320	320	280

2. Out of those serving	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21	
	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical
How many SPs were eligible for promotion?	240	420	300	420	280	390	280	380	280	360
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with an older style service number total?	140	390	120	340	100	260	90	210	70	160
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a new style service number total?	100	30	180	80	180	130	190	170	210	200
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a reduced JMES total?	40	100	60	110	70	100	60	90	70	110
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a full JMES total?	200	320	230	310	210	290	220	280	210	250
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with an older style service number and a reduced JMES?	30	100	30	100	40	70	30	60	30	60
How many SPs were there eligible for promotion with a new style service number and a full JMES?	90	30	150	70	150	110	160	130	160	150

3. Out of those eligible for promotion		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21	
		Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates total?	90	150	100	120	60	160	70	130	70	180	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with an older style service number total?	70	140	40	100	20	110	20	70	10	80	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a new style service number total?	20	~	60	20	40	50	50	60	60	100	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a reduced JMES total?	20	30	20	30	10	30	20	30	20	50	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a full JMES total?	70	110	90	90	50	120	60	100	60	130	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with an older style service number and a reduced JMES?	10	30	10	30	10	20	10	20	~	30	
How many SPs were graded as 'A' Candidates with a new style service number and a full JMES?	20	~	60	20	30	40	40	40	50	80	

4. Out of those 'A' Candidates

	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21	
	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical
How many SPs featured on the Promotion Selection Board (PSB) produced Merit of Order List (MOL)?	90	150	100	120	60	160	70	130	70	180
How many SPs with an older style service number featured on the PSB produced MOL?	70	140	40	100	20	110	20	70	10	80
How many SPs with a new style service number featured on the PSB produced MOL?	20	~	60	20	40	50	50	60	60	100
How many SPs with a reduced JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?	20	30	20	30	10	30	20	30	20	50
How many SPs with a full JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?	70	110	90	90	50	120	60	100	60	130
How many SPs with an older style service number and a reduced JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?	10	30	10	30	10	20	10	20	~	30
How many SPs with a new style service number and a full JMES featured on the PSB produced MOL?	20	~	60	20	30	40	40	40	50	80

5. Out of those featured on the PSB produced MOL											
	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		
	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	Avionics/Mechanical	
How many SPs were released to the Promotion Selection List (PSL)	50	70	50	80	40	60	30	90	40	60	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with an older style service number?	40	70	20	70	20	40	~	50	10	30	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with a new style service number?	10	~	30	10	30	20	30	40	40	30	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with a reduced JMES	~	20	10	20	10	10	~	20	10	20	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with a full JMES?	40	60	40	60	40	40	30	70	40	50	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with an older style service number and a reduced JMES?	~	20	10	20	~	10	~	10	~	10	
How many SPs were released to the PSL with a new style service number and a full JMES?	10	~	30	10	20	20	20	30	30	30	
Once the two (AV & Mech) PSLs closed did the next SP on the MOL (i.e. was not made an offer of promotion) either have an older style service number a reduced JMES or both	Old Full	Old Full	New Full	Old Full	New Full	Old Full	New Full	Old Full	New Full	Old Full	

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Multiuser

The main role of the Coordinator is to continually monitor the inbox, as some emails will require immediate action.

Read through the email and forward it to the relevant C1 unless you are aware that a particular desk officer is already dealing with the matter. The secretariat org chart link summarises the responsibilities of each team, however, if **you are unsure** of who to forward an email on to, send to all 4 C1s. Once an email has been forwarded on, flag it as complete (green tick).

All emails need to be actioned, including ones where we are CC'd into and cannot be left sitting in the mailbox without being forwarded on to the relevant team/person. Nothing is to be deleted from the multiuser.

If anything comes in with a particularly short deadline, forward it on to the appropriate team and verbally make the C1 of that team aware.

⇒ Multi user address

⇒ link to Sec contacts