



Ministry  
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI2021/03674

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

30 April 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 6 April 2021, in which you clarified the following information:

*"The numbers and proportion of ALM offered MEOS' I seek to understand that, of the total number of WSOp ALM currently in the rank of MAcr or FS, how many of them are serving with a contracted exit point of age 60."*

in relation to the following:

*"Trade: None Commissioned Aircrew (NCA ALM) Air Load Master (ALM)  
Rank attained: Flight Sergeant  
Length of service: 22 years"*

*I wonder if you are able to provide me with pertinent statistics in this matter, given the above details using a 7- year span of data from 2012/13 to 2019/20 (if not available then 2011/12 to 2019/18). In particular I am interested in figures relating to:*

- *Average and median length of service for NCA.*
- *% chance of promotion into rank from Sgt to WO (Master Air Loadmaster)*
- *% chance of promotion into rank from Sgt through to WO, having already achieved the previous rank.*
- *Average total length of reckonable service on promotion into rank from Sgt to WO.*
- *% chance, year on year, of serving through to LoS 35.*
- *The numbers and proportion of ALM offered MEOS*

*It would be most useful if it were at all possible for you to provide the same data for a new entrant to this trade."*

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.

With regard to bullet points 1 - 5, please find a career projection for Non-Commissioned Aircrew (NCA) at Annex A.

With regard to the final bullet point, as of 8 April 2021 the percentage proportion of NCA Air Load Masters (ALM), at Flight Sergeant and Master Air Crew, offered Mandated End of Service (MEOS) is 19%.

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,

Air Command Secretariat

Enc:

Annex A - Career Projection for a Flight Sergeant with 22 yrs LoS into the NCA cadre

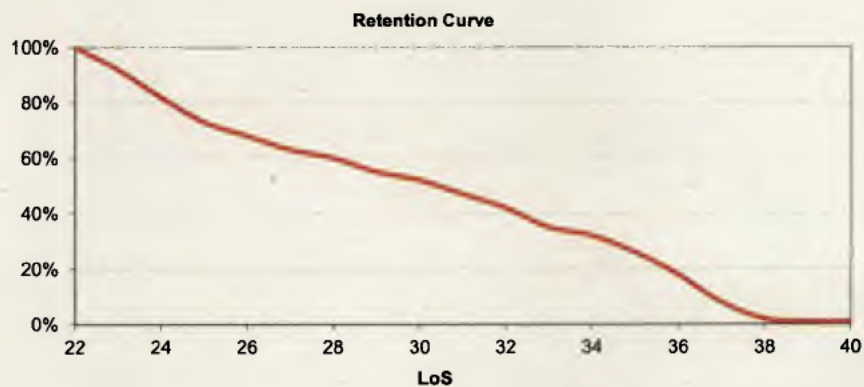


## Career Projection for a Flight Sergeant with 22 yrs LoS into the NCA cadre.

LoS <sup>1</sup>	% chance of reaching LoS
22	100%
23	92%
24	82%
25	73%
26	68%
27	63%
28	60%
29	55%
30	52%
31	47%
32	42%
33	35%
34	32%
35	26%
36	18%
37	8%
38	2%
39	1%
40	1%

	% chance of being promoted into rank	% chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank <sup>2</sup>	Average (mean) total length of service on promotion into rank
FS	100%		
M ACR	54%	50%	26 years 1 months

Median Length of Service <sup>3</sup>	15 years
Average (mean) Length of Service <sup>3</sup>	17 years 2 months



<sup>1</sup> 'LoS x' means 'LoS greater than or equal to x but less than x+1'. So 'LoS21', for example, is the chance of personnel serving more than or equal to 21 years but less than 22 years.

<sup>2</sup> Chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank' considers the branch as a whole and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained personnel within the branch.

<sup>3</sup> Average (mean) and Median Length of Service are the average length of service of personnel on strength. It considers trained and untrained personnel within the branch and is not specific to rank or LoS.

**Notes:**

- a. These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2013/14 – 2019/20. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - Flight Sergeant with 22 yrs LoS into the NCA cadre - average career projections have been calculated.
- b. Analysis Air's career forecasts are not based on the actual experience of any one individual, but rather are based on the historical behaviour of individuals with similar characteristics.