



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI2021/06189

[Redacted]

6 July 2021

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 9 June 2021, in which you requested the following information:

"Please could you provide statistics for males/females entering the Pilot branch. Specifically, I would be grateful if you could provide data over the last 3 years:

For graduates applying for Pilot branch:

- 1. The number of applicants per year;*
- 2. The number of candidates boarded at OASC per year;*
- 3. The number of candidates enlisted into phase 1 training per year.*

For non-graduates applying for Pilot branch:

- 4. The number of applicants per year;*
- 5. The number of candidates boarded at OASC per year;*
- 6. The number of candidates enlisted into phase 1 training per year."*

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 the information in scope of your request is held.

Please see table below in relation to questions 1 – 6 for the last three calendar years:

Graduates		2018	2019	2020
Number of applications per calendar year.	Total	393	417	276
	Male	363	374	253
	Female	30	43	23
Number of candidates boarded at Officer Aircrew & Selection Centre (OASC) per calendar year.	Total	60	40	10
	Male	60	40	10
	Female	~	~	0
Number of candidates allocated to Phase 1 training per calendar year.	Total	10	10	0
	Male	10	10	0
	Female	0	~	0

Non-graduates		2018	2019	2020
Number of applications per calendar year.	Total	2128	2677	3096
	Male	1963	2424	2852
	Female	165	253	244
Number of candidates boarded at Officer Aircrew & Selection Centre (OASC) per calendar year.	Total	200	140	70
	Male	180	140	60
	Female	20	~	10
Number of candidates allocated to Phase 1 training per calendar year.	Total	70	40	10
	Male	60	40	10
	Female	10	~	~

Please note that data includes all applications for regular RAF service processed via the digital recruitment system. Additionally, data for graduates includes those with a recorded graded Degree and above equivalent qualification.

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 and "~" 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