



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI2023/01668

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

7 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 February 2023 requesting the following information:

'I am writing to request the current RAF Guidelines and eyesight requirements for the role of Logistics Officer and any information which is related to eyesight requirements during the recruitment process into the RAF.'

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.

The visual requirements for a Logistics Officer are:

- Visual Acuity less than 6/60 at worse but can be corrected with glasses to 6/9 or better in the Right eye.
- Visual Acuity less than 6/60 at worse but can be corrected with glasses to 6/12 or better in the left eye.
- Colour Perception Standard must be 2.

Please see below an excerpt from Air Publication 3391, Volume 3, Leaflet 205 - Medical Selection Process, which details the eyesight requirements for joining the Royal Air Force:

VISUAL ASSESSMENTS

9. The minimum standard for both uncorrected and corrected vision is dependent upon the individual specialisation standard, as dictated by Profession Advisers. Impaired colour perception (commonly referred to as colour blindness) is not a bar to service but may limit career choices.

10. Glasses and/or contact lenses, if worn, must be brought to the medical appointment. Soft contact lenses must be removed 48 hours before the medical appointment and hard lenses 10 days before.

11. All candidates are supplied the RAF Opticians Report Form with their VA pack up. Candidates who require spectacles or contact lenses are to email a copy of their

completed opticians form to Capita, ideally ahead of the telephone medical but no later than 3 days before the face to face medical, as per the instructions on the form. If required, additional forms can be obtained from RITS, MSL - Opticians Report.

12. Additionally, all firefighter candidates are to email a copy of the completed form to Capita ahead of their medical, regardless of whether they wear glasses/contact lenses.

13. Failure to do so will result in a candidate being deemed Temporarily Medically Unfit (TMU) following their medical until the report is provided. If the opticians report is not received prior to the telephone medical examination, providing this is the only reason they are TMU, the face to face medical will still be able to be booked. The TMU status will allow Capita to remind the candidate to submit the opticians report and will further highlight the need for the report to the ME at subsequent medicals. If the opticians report is not received via email by the time of the face to face medical, the candidate will be deemed TMU until this has been received at Capita via email and reviewed.

14. On occasion, it will only be during the face to face medical that it will be identified that a candidate requires glasses. In such instances the candidate will be made TMU until a completed optician's report has been emailed to Capita for review.

15. A paper copy of the report taken to the face to face medical is not sufficient. An electronic copy must be emailed to Capita to allow it to be added to the candidate's electronic medical case for assurance and governance purposes.

16. Laser eye surgery. Medical fitness for candidates who have undergone laser eye surgery will be assessed in accordance with the standards detailed in the JSP950 6-7-7 by the ME.

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 at the address above. 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

[signed electronically]

Air Command Secretariat

