



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI 2023/02496

[REDACTED]

23 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 February 2023 requesting the following information:

*Dear Royal Air Force,
I am requesting the following information for the past 3 financial years.*

- (1) *What was the total number of University Air Squadron members?*
- (2) *What was the number of UAS members who entered regular service?*
- (3) *What was the number of UAS members who applied to the Pilot role?*
- (4) *What was the number of UAS members who applied to the RPAS Pilot role?*
- (5) *What was the number of UAS members who are allocated to Phase one training for the Pilot role?*
- (5) *What was the number of UAS members who are allocated to Phase one training for the RPAS Pilot role?*

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 requested information is detailed in the below tables.

Question 1

Academic Year	Number of University Air Squadron (UAS) members
2020/2021	830
2021/2022	870
2022/2023	920

Question 2

Financial Year	Number of UAS students who entered Regular Service
2019/2020	70
2020/2021	100
2021/2022	80

Question 3

Financial Year	Number of UAS students who applied for the Pilot role
2019/2020	350
2020/2021	280
2021/2022	80

Question 4

Financial Year	Number of UAS students who applied for the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) role
2019/2020	20
2020/2021	20
2021/2022	10

Question 5

Financial Year	Number of UAS students allocated to Phase I training (Pilot role)
2019/2020	20
2020/2021	30
2021/2022	20

Question 6

Financial Year	Number of UAS students allocated to Phase 1 training (RPAS pilot role)
2019/2020	~
2020/2021	~
2021/2022	~

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, "~" denotes a number less than or equal to 5. Due to the rounding methods used, totals may not always equal the sum of the parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Data has been provided by the Royal Air Force (RAF) 22 Group for Table 1 and RAF Recruitment and Selection for Tables 2 – 6.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance), it may be helpful for you to know that due to the variable length of the recruitment process, entrants to service may have applied in previous Financial Years, in addition, in Financial Year 2021 and 2022, application numbers for the pilot branch were lower as Direct Entry applications for this branch were closed from October 2020.

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,

[Original signed]

Air Command Secretariat

