



Ministry
of Defence

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

Ref: FOI2019/00628

Monica Bloomfield [by email]
request-544592-746e7186@whatdotheyknow.com

7 February 2019

Dear Ms Bloomfield

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 January 2019, which has been considered to be a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

In your e-mail you requested the following:

"I am writing to request Defence statistics (air) for the following:

- 1. Average and median lengths of service, separately for:*
 - a) RAF Officers*
 - b) RAF aeronautical engineers*
- 2. The average time taken for RAF commissioned officers and (separately) RAF aeronautical engineers to progress to each of the following ranks:*
 - a) flight lieutenant*
 - b) from flight lieutenant to squadron leader*
 - c) from squadron leader to wing commander*
- 3. The percentage chance of RAF officers and (separately) RAF aeronautical engineers, being promoted from each of the the following ranks:*
 - a) flight lieutenant*
 - b) squadron leader*
 - c) wing commander*

4. The percentage chance of RAF officers and (separately) aeronautical engineers, promotion into the following ranks, having achieved the preceding rank:

- a) flight lieutenant*
- b) squadron leader*
- c) wing commander*

5. The range of benefits available for the following ranks:

- a) flight lieutenant*
- b) squadron leader*
- c) wing commander”*

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) requires further information in order to determine whether it holds any information in relation to your request.

In order to ensure that you are given an answer helpful to your enquiry, please can you clarify what you mean by aeronautical officer as there is no such officer branch within the RAF. Please be advised that there are two Engineer Officer branches: Communications Electronics and Aerosystems. However, please note that the Aerosystems branch is a relatively new branch and does not have the requisite number of years data to provide the statistics you are requesting. Therefore, any data provided will be for the officer branch of Engineer.

Additionally, please can you clarify what information you are specifically interested in with regards to your question about the range of benefits available. Benefits within the Armed Forces are wide ranging and can include, but is not exclusive to, monetary reward (pay and allowances), subsidised housing and messing facilities, medical and dental treatment, gym membership and sports clubs.

Once you have clarified your request, I will be pleased to consider it again. Please note that any requests for recorded information may be subject to exemptions under the terms of the FOI Act.

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