

Mr D Gurtler

Email: request-162619-

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HEADQUARTERS AIR COMMAND

Air Command Secretariat

Spitfire Block Royal Air Force High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP14 4UE

Our Ref: 24-05-2013-105825-006

11 June 2013

Dear Mr Gurtler

Thank you for your e-mail of 24 May requesting information about civilian aircraft movements at RAF Northolt. This has been considered as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search for the information you requested and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

You have asked about the current restrictions on civilian aircraft movements at RAF Northolt. This information can be found in the RAF Northolt Aerodrome manual terms and conditions which you can view via the following link: http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafnortholt/flyinginfo/index.cfm. Under section 21 of the FOI Act (information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means) we are therefore not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

The Minister for Defence Equipment and Supply recently wrote to local MP's to advise them that the Department is to increase the revenue from commercial movements through RAF Northolt. This will be up to a maximum of 12,000 per year and introduced gradually over a three year period subject to interest. These commercial aircraft movements will be strictly in accordance with the extant arrangements and current airspace restrictions and the Station's current opening and closing times for commercial aircraft will remain the same. Consultation was undertaken with the Department for Transport, the Civil Aviation Authority, and NATS prior to this decision being taken. Meetings also took place in April this year with Hillingdon Borough Council and local residents, via the Community Liaison Group, to advise them of the changes

We do not hold information relating to the last part of your request as RAF Northolt will remain a military airfield.

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 **Deputy Chief Information Officer**, 2nd 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 investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, http://www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Air Command Secretariat 3b

