



Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat

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Ref: FOI2019/03359

Mr Mike Green
request-562106-882735d7@whatdotheyknow.com

15 April 2019

Dear Mr Green,

Thank you for your email dated 18 March 2019, which asked for the following information:

I'd like to request a copy of the documents which act as the flying manual and training syllabus used by the RAF for the training of RAF Basic Fast-Jet training pilots on the Beechcraft T-6C Texan T.1 training aircraft. I am a freelance journalist working on an article about the introduction of the aircraft to service.

I am treating your email as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. However, we believe that some of the information falls within the scope of qualified exemption Section 43 (Commercial Interests). As such it is necessary for us to decide whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The FOI Act requires us to respond to requests promptly and no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies and a public interest test has to be conducted, the Act allows the response time to be longer than this. A full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case and we estimate that it will take an additional 20 working days to take a final decision on where the balance of public interest lies. We therefore plan to respond by 16 May 2019.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly 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 review 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,
DE&S Secretariat