

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

17 August 2016
Reference: F0002855

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 25 July 2016, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'I would like to request some information you may hold regarding the mental health of pilots in the UK.

I would like the following information: -

how many pilots suffered from mental illness in the UK for the years 2014 and 2015.

how many sick days were taken by UK pilots which related to mental illness in the years 2014 and 2015.

How many pilots were dismissed from service due to mental illness'

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we are able to provide the information below.

1. Please see below table for the number of commercial pilots who have declared a diagnosis of a depressive illness, adjustment disorder, anxiety disorder, stress related issues or post-traumatic stress disorder (not necessarily related to flying) during 2014 and 2015. This includes licence holders transferring from other national authorities. The disorders vary significantly in their level of severity and impact, and following declaration, the CAA requires detailed reports from medical specialists which include those treating the individual and those advising the CAA.

Year	Number	Percentage of all commercial pilots certificated that year
2014	88	0.41%
2015	101	0.47%

2. The CAA do not hold information on the number of sick days that were taken by UK pilots, this information will be held by individual employers.
3. The CAA do not hold information on the number of pilots that were dismissed from service due to mental illness, this is information that will be held by individual employers.

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk
Head of External Information Services
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
Gatwick
RH6 0YR

caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24>.

Yours sincerely



Rihanne Stephen
Information Rights Officer

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.