28 November 2016
Reference: F0002977

Dear [Name],

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 31 October 2016, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'I would welcome a response to the following questions:
How long does it take to issue (on average) a personal licence (ie. 'flight crew licence)'? 
How long does it take to issue (on average) ratings (ie. IR)?

If this could be broken down by type that would be appreciated.'

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), please find below average turnaround times for the initial issue of both Private and Professional Pilot licenses as well as the issue of ratings (IR) for both Private and Professional. Please note that this information is based on a 4 week period between 24/10/2016 to 18/11/2016.

Private Issues: 20 working days
Professional Issues: 20 working days

Private Ratings: 18 working days
Professional Ratings: 18 working days

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.