

██████████
████████████████████

14 February 2018
Reference: F0003570

Dear ██████████

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 24 January 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'In each of the last five years that you have records for – please select either calendar or financial year, whichever is easier for you (but please state which you are using in your response) – how many commercial pilots had their licence to work taken away because they were diagnosed as being HIV positive? Please break this figure down by each individual year.'

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.

Commercial pilots who are diagnosed with HIV infection are assessed as unfit whilst undergoing clinical evaluation and being started on treatment. They are then reassessed as fit, once reports indicating that they are fit to return to work as a pilot have been received. Whilst their medical certificates may be suspended, none will have had their licences removed.

The following are calendar years (2018 until the end of January only) during which commercial pilots declared their HIV positive diagnosis, with the number of commercial pilots who declared in each year:

2013	0
2014	2
2015	2
2016	1
2017	2
2018	1

The 6 pilots who declared in 2014, 2015 and 2017 have all regained their medical certificates.

The pilot who declared in 2016 remains unfit due to complications which may or may not be related to HIV infection.

The case declared in January 2018 is currently unfit due to the recency of the diagnosis and is undergoing assessment.

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.