



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2018/10836/10/4

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

20 September 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 21 August in which you requested the following information:

*'For each individual regular infantry battalion in the British army, can you please show:
A) The manning liability for each infantry battalion as of the most recent date possible. Can you please show the manning liability of i) officers and ii) other ranks in each battalion.
B) The actual strength for each battalion as of the most recent date possible. Can you please show the actual strength of i) officers ii) other ranks in each battalion.'*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. Some of the information held is exempt from release under Section 23 (1) (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) of the Freedom of Information Act and is therefore withheld. This is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information. A copy of the information which can be released is detailed below.

The table shows the strengths and the planned workforce requirement (liability) under Army 2020 of Regular Infantry Battalions serving at Regimental Duty as at 1 July 2018. Please note that:

- Individual units are working towards the manning levels required under A2020, there will therefore be some disparity between workforce requirements and strengths.
- As part of the Army 2020 (Refine) work announced by the then Secretary of State for Defence on 15 December 2016, the Army is currently reshaping its structures. This means that some details will change as Army 2020 (Refine) continues to be developed and implemented.
- Regimental Duty means those serving within the Battalions and therefore the figures do not include Attached Arms (e.g. those Infantry personnel serving elsewhere within the Army, for example Headquarters, at training and instructional establishments or detached to other Arms and Services).
- The figures are single service estimates and are not official statistics produced by Defence Statistics.

Infantry Battalion / Coy	Officers		Other Ranks	
	Workforce Requirement	Strength	Workforce Requirement	Strength
1st Battalion Grenadier Guards (including Coy)	37	37	555	525
1st Battalion Coldstream Guards (including Coy)	37	38	555	449

1st Battalion Scots Guards (including Coy)	38	38	691	431
1st Battalion Irish Guards	32	32	467	343
1st Battalion Welsh Guards	32	31	467	353
1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland	32	37	180	195
2nd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland	33	35	533	408
3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland	33	34	533	434
4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland	33	31	603	471
Balaklava Company, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland	6	5	93	73
1st Battalion The Royal Welsh	33	35	582	470
1st Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment	33	31	533	439
1st Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment	33	31	533	501
2nd Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment	32	33	180	390
1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusilier	33	32	582	461
1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment	33	35	533	455
2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment	33	32	533	420
1st Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment	33	30	533	378
2nd Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment	32	30	180	392
1st Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment	33	31	603	481
2nd Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment	33	32	533	419
1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment	33	30	582	508
2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment	33	31	533	383
1st Battalion The Rifles	33	33	533	531
2nd Battalion The Rifles	33	33	533	565
3rd Battalion The Rifles	33	31	603	570
4th Battalion The Rifles	32	31	180	215
5th Battalion The Rifles	33	34	582	577
2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment	34	35	561	511
3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment	35	32	561	502

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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.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,

