



Ministry  
of Defence

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

Ref: 13/04 FOI2018/14709

E-mail: [ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk)

Website: [www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

19 December 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 20 November in which you asked for the following information:

1 For each of the years from 2013 – 2017 how many soldiers were discharged under QR 9.404, QR 9.405 and QR 9.414?

2 For each of the years from 2013 – 2017, of those discharged under QR 9.404, QR 9.405 and QR 9.414, how many were discharged within the first 4 years of their service?

*I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

Thank you for your agreement on 14 December to amend your request to:

*Regular Trade Trained soldiers leaving the Army in calendar years 2014 to 2017 inclusive who:*

1. *Discharged for Admin/Discipline Reasons  
Of which who left under QR9.414*
2. *Discharged in the first four years of service for Admin/Dicipline reasons  
Of which who left under QR9.414*

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 and can be found below. Some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 40 (Personal Data), and has been withheld.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Please note that personnel who have outflowed on QR9.414 are a Single Service estimate provided by the Army and are not official statistics produced by Defence Statistics. Figures have been rounded to 10 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality.

The figures are for the Trade Trained Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves, but includes those personnel that have transferred from the Gurkhas to the Regular Army.

Length of service (LoS) has been calculated using entry date. There are known problems with the entry date information extracted from JPA which is supposed to reflect their 'current entry date' but if personnel have transferred to the Army from another Service, served under an alternative assignment type (e.g. reserve forces), are re-entrants or have transferred from Other Ranks to Officers, their entry date may correspond to any of these events. The resulting LoS may reflect their current period of service, include previous service, or it may be the time that has elapsed since they first joined the Armed Forces, irrespective of any break in service.

Part 1: Admin/Discipline Discharges of Trade Trained Regular Other Ranks

	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Admin Discipline</b>	1,010	940	940	950

Source: Defence Statistics(Army)

Of Which: QR9.414	830	750	750	780
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Source: Single Service Army Estimate

Part 2 – Admin/Discipline Discharges of Trade Trained Regular Other Ranks in the first four years of service

	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Admin Discipline</b>	680	600	560	610

Source: Defence Statistics(Army)

Of Which: QR9.414	600	530	500	550
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Source: Single Service Army Estimate

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](mailto: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,

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Army Secretariat