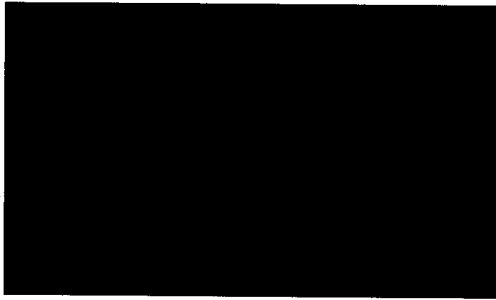




Ministry
of Defence



FOI2020/00251

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4 February 2020



Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 8 January 2020 in which you requested the following information:

'Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information on the RN Medical Assistant (MA) Branch, specifically:

- What are the chances of survival (chances of completing x years service from a new entry to 32 years LoS)?
- What are the chances of promotion to each rank, from MA to WO1?
- What is the average time taken to achieve promotion to each rank from MA to WO1
- How many by of the MA branch by rate/rank are on Extended Careers.
- I understand that due to small number of RMMA personal it may not be possible to provide the same information and that I will need to rely on the more general RN data; however, please could you provide me details of how many RMMAs one the last ten years have been promoted to WO1 and how many have been offered Extended Careers in the last ten years?'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. Please see Annex A to this letter where each part of your request is addressed in order.

I should advise you that the analysis in Tables 1, 2 and 3 has been provided for New Entrant Medical Assistant. New Entrant includes personnel who have joined the Royal Navy/Royal Marines at the rank of OR-2 within the previous 12 months as at 1 April each year. The data provided for the chances of survival and chances of promotion are produced using historic data from 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2019.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance), you may find it helpful to note the response to Question four is comprised of all personnel who have an extended career engagement recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration system. This includes personnel who received an extended career under equivalent terms prior to the introduction of Engagement Stage 3. Personnel may have an extended career engagement recorded prior to completion of their previous engagement or reaching the requirements to serve on an extended career. Personnel who continue to serve on an Extension of Service after completion of their extended career engagement are also included.

In addition, in response to the first and second parts of question five, we have included personnel with the specialisations Royal Marine Medical Assistant and Royal Navy Medical Assistant (Commando) as they perform similar roles and fall under the same promotion board. Personnel with the specialisations Royal Navy Medical Assistant (General Service) and Royal Navy Medical Assistant (Submariner) are excluded.

With regard to the second part of question five, we cannot provide the number of personnel who have been offered an extended career. Therefore, we have provided the number of personnel who transferred onto an extended career contract over the past ten Financial Years.

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

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

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section

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Q1. What are the Chances of Survival (Chances of Completing X Years Service from a New Entry to 32 years LoS).

Table 1. The chance a New Entrant Royal Navy/Royal Marine Medical Assistant (MA) will achieve each Length of Service (LOS) before exiting:

Length of Service (years)	Chance of Completing length of service
0	87%
1	86%
2	85%
3	82%
4	77%
5	72%
6	67%
7	60%
8	56%
9	49%
10	44%
11	40%
12	35%
13	31%
14	27%
15	25%
16	23%
17	23%
18	21%
19	19%
20	19%
21	17%
22	10%
23	8%
24	6%
25	5%
26	5%
27	4%
28	4%
29	3%
30	3%
31	3%
32	1%
33	1%
34	1%
35	0%
36	0%
37	0%
38	0%
39	0%
40	0%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Expected LOS is calculated by using the averages of historic data and represents full years of completed service.
2. Exiting denotes anything that results in an ending of Regular service, e.g. time expiry, voluntary outflow, death etc.

Q2. What are the Chances of Promotion to each Rank, from MA to WO1.

Table 2. Chance of promotion for a Royal Navy/Royal Marine Medical Assistant New Entrant:

Rank		Chance of Promotion to rank
OR-4	Leading Hand / Corporal	49%
OR-6	Petty Officer / Sergeant	29%
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer / Colour Sergeant	15%
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	4%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

Q3. What is the Average Time Taken to Achieve Promotion to each Rank from MA to WO1.

Table 3. The expected LOS in rank, and expected LOS on promotion to rank in years, for a New Entrant Royal Navy/Royal Marine Medical Assistant:

Rank		Expected LOS in Rank	Expected LOS on promotion to the rank
OR-2	Able Rate / Marine	6.0	N/A
OR-4	Leading Hand / Corporal	5.2	6.7
OR-6	Petty Officer / Sergeant	4.9	12.0
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer / Colour Sergeant	5.2	17.3
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	7.4	21.3

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. 'Expected LOS in rank' includes all exits from that rank, for example promotion to the next rank or exiting the Service.
2. N/A is present because you cannot be promoted to OR-2.

Q4. How many by of the MA Branch by Rate/Rank are on Extended Careers.

Table 4. Trained Regular Royal Navy/Royal Marine Medical Assistants on an Extended Career by Substantive Rank, as at 1 October 2019:

Substantive Rank		
OR4	Leading Hand / Corporal	~
OR6	Petty Officer / Sergeant	10
OR7	Chief Petty Officer / Colour Sergeant	25
OR9	Warrant Officer 1	20

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 in line with disclosure control policy. Figures fewer than 5 are represented by '~', 0 is represented by '-'.

Q5. I Understand that due to Small Number of Royal Marine Medical Assistant Personal it may not be Possible to Provide the same Information and that I will need to rely on the more General RN data; However, please could you Provide me details of how many RMMAs one the last ten years have been Promoted to WO1 and how many have been Offered Extended Careers in the last Ten Years.

In response to the first part of question five, between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2019, 5 (rounded¹) Trained Regular Royal Marine Medical Assistant/Royal Navy Medical Assistant (Commando) were promoted to Warrant Officer 1 (OR-9).

¹ Figure rounded to the nearest 5 in line with disclosure control policy.

In response to the second part of question five, Between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2019, 10 (rounded¹) Trained Regular Royal Marine Medical Assistant/Royal Navy Medical Assistant (Commando) transferred to an Extended Career contract.

¹ Figure rounded to the nearest 5 in line with disclosure control policy.