



Ministry
of Defence

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29 June 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 June 2016 requesting the following information:

'I understand that it is possible to successfully go through the recruitment process including the AIB, but that an individual candidate's 'score' in the AIB may not necessarily be sufficient to be offered a commission. Can you describe how this system works?

What percentage of those who do successfully complete the AIB, will go on to be offered a commission?'

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

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you requested and taking your questions in order:

Q1. I understand that it is possible to successfully go through the recruitment process including the AIB, but that an individual candidate's 'score' in the AIB may not necessarily be sufficient to be offered a commission. Can you describe how this system works?

A1. Candidates appear at the Admiralty Interview Board (AIB) for their chosen Branch of Preference. They are assessed by the board using an objective process and are awarded a Final Board Mark at the end. A threshold score has been established and candidates meeting or exceeding that threshold are forwarded for selection. The candidates forwarded for selection for each branch are collated and that list is used to select the final candidates for entry at a Final Selection Board (FSB) held some 6 weeks before the entry date. The criteria for selection at the FSB is based on the AIB Final Board Mark so high scoring candidates always take precedence in filling the places available. Candidates remain in the

FSB for one year only (the validity of an AIB) and if not selected in that time are removed from the list.

Q2. What percentage of those who do successfully complete the AIB, will go on to be offered a commission?

A2. For candidates who attended and passed the AIB in recruiting year 2015/16, approximately 65% were selected for an entry. This figure excludes those who undertook an AIB for a sponsorship scheme, eg. Welbeck, 6th form sponsorship, medical cadetship, etc, as many of these who took the AIB in 15/16 would not yet have a confirmed entry date due to the length of their sponsorship.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 2nd Floor, Zone N, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section