



Ministry
of Defence

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Mr [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

22 December 2014

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 1 December 2014 requesting the following information:

"Could you please provide me with the following information regarding Lt Cols who left the Army over the period 1 April 2006 - 31 March 2010:

What was the average length of reckonable service of those Regular officers who left the Army in the rank of Lt Col over the period 1 April 2006 - 31 March 2010? and

What was the average time spent in final rank for those Regular officers who left the Army in the rank of Lt Col over the period 1 April 2006 - 31 March 2010?"

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

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.

The average length of service for all trained Regular Officers who left with a paid rank of Lieutenant Colonel between 1st April 2006 and 31st March 2010 is 24 years and 7 months.

Average time spent in the paid rank of Lieutenant Colonel for all trained Regular Officers who left with a paid rank of Lieutenant Colonel between 1st April 2006 and 31st March 2010 is 5 years and 9 months

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the average length of service is calculated using the entry date and exit date as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration System and legacy systems. There are known problems with the entry date information extracted from the Joint Personnel Administration System which should 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 and therefore the resulting length of service 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. The average length of service includes time spent in service whilst untrained.

A small number of records have incomplete data regarding their date of paid rank promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. These have been excluded from the figures provided. The exclusions total

0.6% of all trained Regular Officers who left with a paid rank of Lieutenant Colonel between 1st April 2006 and 31st March 2010.

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, 1st Floor, 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat