



Ministry
of Defence

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[REDACTED]

3 May 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 31 March 2017 in which you requested the following information:

Please do release information pertaining to apprenticeships completed and the Regiment/Corps of Junior Entry Soldiers after two years in the Army for the last three intakes.

Thank you for pointing out the other release about GCSEs. Could you also provide this information for the preceding two intakes and clarify in each case the total number of recruits in those intakes.

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 has been provided below.

Table 1 Apprenticeship completion after two years of service

	Total apprenticeship enrolment on intake	Number completed an apprenticeship within the first two years
Mar 2014 JE intake	230	100
Sept 2014 JE intake	570	165
March 2015 JE intake	365	25

- In 2014 those on the short course were not enrolled on apprenticeships until they reached Phase 2 training. Those beginning apprenticeships at this stage are not captured in the above figures. This was subsequently changed and now all soldiers

who attend Army Foundation College (Harrogate) are enrolled onto an apprenticeship which they continue when they move through Phase 2 training and into the Field Army.

- Some of the Army's apprenticeship programmes take longer than two years to deliver (some of the more technical apprenticeships can take 42 months).
- Junior soldiers spend longer in training than older recruits and as the apprenticeship is linked to soldiers' trade training, the junior recruits may take longer to complete their apprenticeships.
- The Army completion rates for apprenticeships is currently 84% so (given the bullet points above) if the timeframe were extended beyond 2 years the completion figures would be significantly higher.

Table 2 Regiment/Corps of Junior Entry soldiers two years after joining the Army

	March 2014 JE intake Arm/Service as at 1st March 2016	September 2014 JE intake Arm/Service as at 1st September 2016	March 2015 JE intake Arm/Service as at 1st March 2017
Total Junior Entry Intake	475	810	520
All in Regular Army	345	550	380
<i>Of which</i>			
<i>H Cav</i>			
<i>RAC</i>	35	50	25
<i>RA</i>	30	65	30
<i>RE</i>	35	45	50
<i>R Signals</i>	~	45	10
<i>Infantry</i>	110	195	115
<i>AAC</i>	10	10	10
<i>RLC</i>	40	60	45
<i>RAMC</i>	20	20	15
<i>REME</i>	60	45	75
<i>AGC(SPS)</i>	~	10	5
<i>RAVC</i>	-	-	~
<i>QARANC</i>	-	~	-
Other Army role, including Reserves	~	10	-
Not in any Army service	130	250	135

Source: Defence Statistics (Army)

- Figures show the Regiment/Corps at the two year time point. Individuals may have transferred between Regiment/Corps within the two years they have served.

Table 3 English GCSE information

Final English Grade	Sep 15 Intake			Mar 16 Intake		Grand Total
	JE (Long)	JE (Short)	Op Rocket	JE (Short)	JE (Long)	
	13/09/2015	20/09/2015	05/10/2015	13/03/2016	20/03/2016	
A	~	5	-	5	~	20
A*	~	~	-	-	-	~
B	15	30	~	20	10	80
C	80	120	10	80	45	335
D	55	60	10	55	55	235
E	25	10	~	10	35	85
F	10	~	-	~	10	25
G	~	~	~	-	~	5
U	-	~	-	-	~	~
Not Taken	50	~	~	~	5	60
Unknown	300	50	25	25	125	525
Grand Total	540	290	50	205	290	1,375

Table 4 Maths GCSE information

Maths Grade	Sep 15 Intake			Mar 16 Intake		Grand Total
	JE (Long)	JE (Short)	Op Rocket	JE(Short)	JE(Long)	
	13/09/2015	20/09/2015	05/10/2015	13/03/2016	20/03/2016	
A*	-	~	-	~	-	~
A	~	15	-	~	-	20
B	15	45	~	30	10	105
C	70	115	10	90	45	330
D	40	30	5	40	50	170
E	20	10	~	5	20	60
F	10	5	~	~	15	40
G	5	~	~	~	5	15
U	-	~	-	~	~	~
Unknown	345	55	25	25	145	595
Not Taken	30	~	~	~	~	35
Grand Total	540	290	50	205	290	1,375

- Figures are for those recruits loaded to the course rather than those who arrived at Harrogate.
- Not all trades require GCSE qualifications therefore there are significant numbers without GCSE level qualifications.
- All candidates have to achieve Entry Level 2 Literacy and Numeracy in order to join the Army. This is tested at Assessment Centres.
- Op Rocket refers to candidates who were loaded to the September intake at short notice to backfill spaces left vacant.

Notes which apply to all tables:

- The data have been rounded to the nearest 5 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not appear to be the sum of their parts.
- "~" fewer than 5
- "-" Zero
- The figures in tables 1, 3 and 4 are single service estimates only and are not official statistics.

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, 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, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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Army Secretariat