



Ministry
of Defence

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17 March 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 29 March 2016 requesting the following information:

- (1) *Recruitment statistics for this branch for the period April 2011 to April 2012, showing the number of applicants and ratio of enquiries, applications and entrants to the Submarine service*
- (2) *The percentage of applicants who are successful at the various stages of the recruitment process: the medical examination; pre-joining fitness tests; and selection interview;*
- (3) *Are there any specialist assessments for Submariner applicants?*
- (4) *The average length of the recruiting process – ie., from initial application to entry to service.*
- (5) *In addition, on 8 June 2015, you kindly provided data on Royal Navy recruitment and selection, generally. In particular, you provided general information on application levels, entry levels and length of service. However, you did not identify the cohort from which these data were drawn. I would be grateful if you would provide the year range from which this data was drawn*

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 following information on the RN Ratings recruitment to the submariner roles and taking your questions in order:

Q1. The recruitment for this branch of the period April 2011 to April 2012, showing the number of applicants and ratio of enquiries, applications and entrants to the Submarine service?

A1. In FY 2011/12 there were 723 applications for RN Ratings Submariner roles, although in some cases an individual may have submitted an application for more than one role.

Q2. The percentage of applicants who are successful at the various stages of the recruitment process; the medical examination; pre-joining fitness test; and selection interview?

A2. Of these applications, some 28% were rejected (4% for failing eligibility criteria; 15% for failing the RT psychometric test; 1% at interview; 1% for fitness; and 7% for medical reasons). A further 25% voluntarily withdrew their application, and 25% went on to enter Service in a

Submariner role. The remaining 22% consist of those who changed their role to a non-submariner role, or cancelled applications they had made for a different submariner role. We do not have information on Enquiries by role of interest prior to October 2014.

Q3. Are there any specialist assessments for Submariner applications?

A3. No

Q4. The average length of the recruiting process – ie., from application to entry to service?

A4. For those who applied for Submariner roles in 2011/12 the median length of time between application and entry to service was 18 months. However, the length of time a candidate would need to wait between having been allocated a place on a training course and actually attending that course varies widely according to the specific job role. Phase 1 training courses are arranged by job role, so a successful candidate would need to wait until a suitable place on the training course for their role was available. Some Submariner branches are very small and only have one or two training entries per year, which can extend the wait to enter beyond the average waiting time.

Q5. In addition, on 8 June 2015, you kindly provided data on Royal Navy recruitment and selection, generally. In particular, you provided general information on application levels, entry levels and length of service. However, you did not identify the cohort from which these data were drawn. I would be grateful if you would provide the year range from which this data was drawn

A5. As pointed out in Annex A para 1 to our letter of 8 June 2015 there is no specific cohort the information referred to the RN community and the information is for the period April 2011 to April 2012 as you requested.

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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section