



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Your ref:
Our ref: RFI 6393
Date: 25 March 2014

Dear

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: MILITARY RESERVES

Thank you for your request for information about Military Reserves, which we received on 25 February 2014. As you know, we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

*“Since **October 25 2013** how many DEFRA civil servants have:*

- a) Expressed an interest in joining the i) Army Reserve ii) Royal Navy Reserve and iii) RAF Reserve*
- b) Applied to join the i) Army Reserve ii) Royal Navy Reserve and iii) RAF Reserve*
- c) Successfully applied and been formally accepted in the i) Army Reserve ii) Royal Navy Reserve and iii) RAF Reserve.”*

Defra does not hold data on the number of staff who have either expressed an interest in joining or applied to join any of the Reserve forces. However, Ministry of Defence, who are the lead Department for Reservists, have advised that one Defra employee expressed an interest in each of the three reserve services at an event held on Horseguards on 25 October.

Defra has not collected any data on the number of staff joining the Reserve forces since 25 October 2013. However, under our duty to provide advice and assistance, I can confirm that as at 30 August 2013, the last time such data was collected, eight staff in Defra and its Agencies were members of the Reserve forces. Information on which force they joined is not held by Defra. The Ministry of Defence may hold some data as they are the lead Department for Reservists.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you may



now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

I attach Annex A, which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you.

I also attach Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Tarran

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Email ann.tarran@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF