



# Ministry of Defence

Defence Statistics (Army)  
Floor 2/Zone 3/IDL27  
Blenheim Building  
Marlborough Lines  
Andover SP11 8HJ

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]

E-mail:

DefStrat-Stat-ARMYINFO-  
REQUESTS@mod.uk

Ref. 06-01-2014-104111-001

[REDACTED]  
29 January 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 3 January 2014 where you requested information about

*...compare statistics for length of service and progress/promotion rates for Commonwealth recruits with those of the Army generally over the period since the early 2000s when more Commonwealth citizens were recruited.*

*Is such comparable information available for recent years?*

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

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit as per Section 12 of the Act. This is because to extract information in scope of your request would involve a rewrite/redesign of the tool used to compile career progression information to provide progression promotion rates for Commonwealth recruits (using nationality): at least some 24.5 working days of effort for one person.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that we have provided a copy of the Army Nationality and Return of Service Report (attached) in answer to the length of service part of your question.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Most documents supplied by the Ministry of Defence will have been produced within government and will be Crown Copyright. For information about re-using Crown Copyright see the Office of Public Sector Information website at [www.opsi.gov.uk](http://www.opsi.gov.uk). The copyright in some documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the Intellectual Property Office's website at [www.ipo.gov.uk](http://www.ipo.gov.uk).

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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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. Standard response template: Providing the applicant with all the information requested.

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,

Head of Branch  
Defence Statistics (ARMY)