

UK Armed Forces Monthly Personnel Report



1 April 2013

Statistical release

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Release notes:

Defence Statistics undertook a major review of all Armed Forces personnel data from the Joint Personnel Administration system. Some figures for the period 1 May 2009 to 1 October 2011 will not match those published prior to 12 December 2012.

This is a monthly publication of the strength, intake and outflow of UK Regular and Non-Regular Forces broken down by training indicator. It complements the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report by providing higher-level figures on strength, intake and outflow for the UK Armed Forces.

The tables provide information about the patterns of change in the composition of the UK's Armed Forces for the four most recent months. The three most recent financial years are also presented to provide context. The graphs that accompany tables extend the timeseries to provide a monthly picture of the longer term patterns.

Armed Forces Personnel Key Points and Trends

- The full time trained strength of the UK Armed Forces was 160,710 at 1 April 2013. This was a 1.4% deficit against the requirement of 162,940.
- Intake into the UK Regular Forces was 14,370 in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; a decrease of 2.9% compared with the 12 months to 31 March 2012.
- Outflow from the UK Regular Forces was 23,520 in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; an increase of 10.1% compared with the 12 months to 31 March 2012.
- In the 12 months to 31 March 2013; 3,470 personnel had left the UK Regular Armed Forces under the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme.

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Commentary

Surplus / Deficit in trained strength of the UK Armed Forces against the requirement

1. The deficit in the UK Armed Forces trained strength was 2,230 (1.4% of the Requirement for trained UK Armed Forces) at 1 April 2013; compared with 3,030 (1.9% of the Requirement for trained UK Armed Forces) at 1 March 2013 and 4,830 (2.8% of the Requirement for trained UK Armed Forces) at 1 April 2012. (Table 1).

Requirement for UK Armed Forces

2. The requirement for the UK Armed Forces is the number of service personnel needed, based on the Defence Planning Round liabilities set for each of the three Services. The requirement for UK Armed Forces was 162,940 at 1 April 2013; down from 163,930 at 1 March 2013, and down from 174,840 at 1 April 2012. (Table 1).

Trained and Untrained Strength of UK Armed Forces

3. The total trained and untrained strength of the UK Armed Forces was 176,660 at 1 April 2013; up from 176,640 at 1 March 2013 and down from 185,690 at 1 April 2012. (Table 2).

Intake into and outflow from the UK Regular Armed Forces (trained and untrained)

- 4. The intake into the UK Regular Forces was 14,370 in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; up from 14,080 in the 12 months to 28 February 2013 and down from 14,800 in the 12 months to 31 March 2012. (Table 3).
- 5. The outflow from the UK Regular Forces was 23,520 in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; down from 24,170 in the 12 months to 28 February 2013 and up from 21,370 in the 12 months to 31 March 2012. (Table 3).
- 6. In the 12 months to 31 March 2013, 3,470 personnel had left the UK Regular Armed Forces under the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme. (Table 3).
- 7. Excluding all flow to and from Long Term Absentee in the 12 months ending 31 March 2013, 9,150 more people left the UK Regular Armed Forces than joined. In the 12 months ending 28 February 2013, 10,080 more people left the UK Regular Armed Forces than joined. And in the 12 months ending 31 March 2012, 6,570 more people left the UK Armed Forces than joined. (Table 3).

Voluntary Outflow (VO) from the trained UK Regular Armed Forces

- 8. The Voluntary Outflow rate for Officers was 3.9% of the trained strength in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; remained static at 3.9% in the 12 months to 28 February 2013 and up from 3.5% in the 12 months to 31 March 2012. (Table 4).
- 9. The Voluntary Outflow rate from the Other Ranks was 5.7% of the trained strength in the 12 months to 31 March 2013; remained static at 5.7% in the 12 months to 28 February 2013 and up from 4.8% in the 12 months to 31 March 2012. (Table 4).

Data Sources:

Armed Forces statistics prior to March 2006 are compiled from pay records (Naval Service) or personnel records (Army and RAF) held by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA, formerly the Armed Forces Personnel Administration Agency). In March 2006 the transfer of all Service personnel records to the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system began. Statistics are compiled from JPA for the RAF from April 2006, for the Naval Service from November 2006 and for the Army from April 2007.

Data Issues (Data Quality):

All tables presented in this publication meet the high standards of quality and integrity demanded by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Defence Statistics welcome feedback on our statistical products. If you have any comments or questions about this publication or about Defence Statistics in general, you can contact us as follows: Tel 0207 807 8896.

Email <u>DASA-quad-enquiries@mod.uk</u>

Visit our website at www.dasa.mod.uk and complete the feedback form there.

Symbols and Conventions

Symbols

- || discontinuity in time series
- not applicable
- .. not available
- p provisional
- r revised
- rp revised but still provisional
- e estimate
- zero or rounded to zero

Rounding

Where rounding has been used, totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so totals may not equal the sums of their rounded parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Table 1 - Full time trained strengths and requirements of UK Armed Forces¹

	2010 1 Apr	2011 1 Apr	2012 1 Apr	2013 1 Jan	2013 1 Feb	2013 1 Mar	2013 1 Apr
All Services							
Requirement ² Trained Strength ³ Surplus/Deficit	178 750 177 890 - 860	179 250 176 860 -2 390	174 840 170 010 -4 830	165 920 ^P 162 250 -3 660 ^P	164 920 ^p 161 440 -3 480 ^p	163 930 ^p 160 900 -3 030 ^p	162 940 ^p 160 710 -2 230 ^p
Naval Service							
Requirement ² Trained Strength Surplus/Deficit	35 790 35 500 - 290	35 700 35 420 - <mark>280</mark>	34 800 33 290 -1 510	31 600 31 810 220	31 240 31 640 400	30 890 31 560 670	30 530 31 420 890
Army							
Requirement ² Trained Strength ³ Surplus/Deficit	102 160 102 260 100	102 210 101 340 - 870	101 210 98 600 -2 610	97 900 94 610 -3 280	97 530 94 140 -3 390	97 160 93 860 -3 300	96 790 93 940 -2 850
Royal Air Force							
Requirement ² Trained Strength Surplus/Deficit	40 800 40 130 - 670	41 340 40 090 -1 250	38 830 38 120 - 700	36 420 ^p 35 820 - 600 ^p	36 160 ^p 35 660 - 500 ^p	35 890 ^p 35 480 - 410 ^p	35 620 ^p 35 350 - 270 ^p

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Data from the Joint Personnel Administration System for May 2009 to October 2011 have been reviewed and finalised, therefore some figures may differ from previous publications. Please see the introduction for more details.

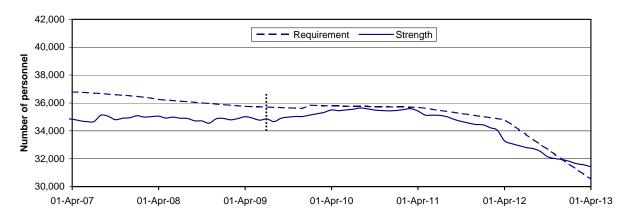
^{1.} Full time trained strength and trained requirement comprises trained UK Regular Forces, trained Gurkhas and from 1 July 2009 onwards elements of the Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) that may be deployed overseas, including Full Commitment (FC), Limited Commitment (LC), Home Commitment (HC) personnel. See Glossary for more details.

^{2.} Requirements are based on Defence Planning Round liabilities set for each of the three Services. Naval Service requirements from 1 May 2012 to 1 July 2012 are interpolated on a monthly basis between April 12 levels set in Defence Planning Round 11, and April 13 levels set in Defence Planning Round 12, from 1 August 2012 the Naval Service requirement has been updated to reflect Planning Liability 1 of 12 scaled to Defence Planning Round 12. Army and RAF requirements are interpolated on a monthly basis between April 12 levels set in Defence Planning Round 11, and April 13 levels set in Defence Planning Round 12.

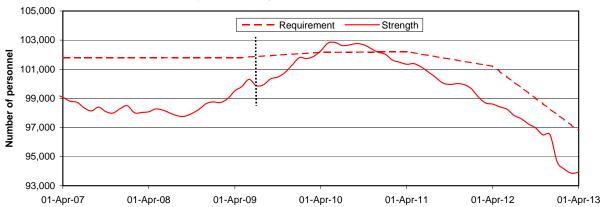
^{3.} From 1 September 2011, the Army has changed its definition of 'trained Officer' to exclude those who have not yet passed Phase II training. This change brings it into line with the other Services.

Trained strength and requirement of UK Armed Forces

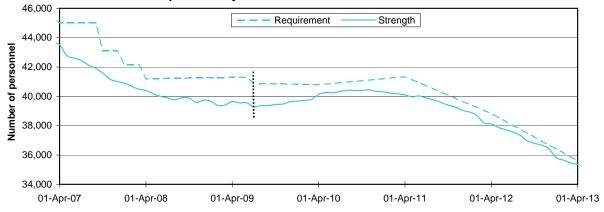
Graph 1.1 - Naval Service officers and other ranks



Graph 1.2 - Army officers and other ranks



Graph 1.3 - Royal Air Force officers and other ranks



Prior to 1 July 2009 strength and requirement figures include some FTRS personnel that were not deployable overseas. This is shown in the graphs as a dotted line representing a break in series. See Glossary for more details.

Tables showing data on the trained strength and requirement from 1 April 2006 to 1 April 2009 are shown in TSP 3 which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

For graphs showing the three services full time trained strength and requirement split by officer/rank, see graphs 2.1-2.9 in the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

Table 2 - Strength of UK Armed Forces¹ - full time trained and untrained personnel

As at 1 April 2013 the UK Armed Forces comprised 176,660 personnel of which 160,710 were trained and counted against the requirement. There were 13,760 untrained personnel.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013
	1 Apr	1 Apr	1 Apr	1 Jan	1 Feb	1 Mar	1 Apr
UK Armed Forces ¹	197 820	192 330	185 690	177 230	177 060	176 640	176 660
Trained and serving against requirement ²	177 890	176 860	170 010	162 250	161 440	160 900	160 710
FTRS serving against additional requirement	1 320	1 530	1 810	2 050	2 090	2 150	2 180
Untrained	18 610	13 950	13 870	12 930	13 520	13 600	13 760
1114 B	404.740	100.000	170.000	474 400	474 000	470 700	170 710
UK Regular Forces ³	191 710	186 360	179 800	171 480	171 300	170 720	170 710
Trained	173 300	172 600	166 110	158 630	157 850	157 320	157 150
Untrained	18 400	13 770	13 700	12 850	13 450	13 400	13 560
Naval Service	38 730	37 660	35 540	34 290	34 250	34 140	33 960
Trained	35 180	35 250	33 190	31 680	31 500	31 420	31 280
Untrained	3 560	2 410	2 360	2 610	2 750	2 720	2 680
Army	108 920	106 240	104 250	99 740	99 670	99 420	99 730
Trained ⁴	98 040	97 280	94 800	91 140	90 700	90 440	90 530
Untrained ⁴	10 890	8 960	9 450	8 600	8 980	8 980	9 200
Royal Air Force	44 050	42 460	40 000	37 460	37 370	37 160	37 030
Trained	40 090	40 070	38 120	35 820	35 650	35 470	35 340
Untrained	3 960	2 400	1 880	1 640	1 720	1 690	1 680
5							
Full Time UK Non-Regular Forces ⁵	6 120	5 970	5 890	5 740	5 760	5 920	5 950
Trained	5 900	5 790	5 710	5 670	5 690	5 720	5 750
Gurkhas	3 620	3 740	3 650	3 360	3 350	3 330	3 310
FTRS serving against the requirement ²	960	520	260	260	250	240	250
FTRS serving against additional requirement	1 320	1 530	1 810	2 050	2 090	2 150	2 180
Untrained	210	180	180	70	70	200	200
Gurkhas	210	180	180	70	70	200	200
FTRS ⁶	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

- 1. UK Armed Forces comprises all UK Regular Forces and full time UK Non-Regular Forces but excludes mobilised reservists.
- 2. Prior to 1 July 2009 figures include some FTRS personnel that were not deployable overseas. See Glossary for more details.
- 3. UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel. It does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel and mobilised reservists.
- 4. From 1 September 2011, the Army has changed its definition of 'trained Officer' to exclude those who have not yet passed Phase II training. This change brings it into line with the other Services.
- 5. Full Time UK Non-Regular Forces comprises Gurkhas and Full Time Reserve Service Personnel (FTRS). Mobilised Reservists are not classed as Full Time UK Non-Regular Forces.
- 6. For a reservist to serve full time they are required to be trained.

Data from the Joint Personnel Administration System for May 2009 to October 2011 have been reviewed and finalised, therefore some figures may differ from previous publications. Please see the introduction for more details.

For more information on the total strength of the UK Armed Forces, broken down by trained and untrained, and Regular and Non-Regular components see tables 3a, 3b and 3c of the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

Table 3 - Intake¹ to and Outflow² from UK Regular Forces³ by Service

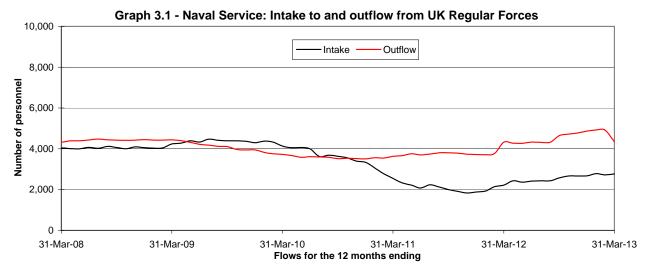
	Financial Yea	ır		12 months er 2012	nding: 2013	2013	2013	Financial Year to 2013
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	31 Dec	31 Jan	28 Feb	31 Mar	31 Mar
All Services								
Strength at start of period	188 600	191 710	186 360	182 080	182 210	180 740	179 800	179 800
Intake (+)	21 500	12 730	14 800	14 470	14 160	14 080	14 370	14 370
LTA Intake (+) 4	980	820	630	550	510	490	470	470
Outflow (-)	18 270	18 140	21 370	25 140	25 120	24 170	23 520	23 520
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	6 400	6 660	7 750	8 600	8 710	8 790	8 800	8 800
of which Redundancy ⁶	-	-	1,700	5 020	5 030	4 060	3 470	3 470
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	1,110	750	640	470	450	410	400	400
Strength at end of period 7	191 710	186 360	179 800	171 480	171 300	170 720	170 710	170 710
Naval Service								
Strength at start of period	38 340	38 730	37 660	36 500	36 400	36 340	35 540	35 540
Intake (+)	4 130	2 550	2 220	2 680	2 780	2 720	2 770	2 770
LTA Intake (+) 4	20	20	10	10	10	10	10	10
Outflow (-)	3 720	3 630	4 320	4 870	4 930	4 920	4 350	4 350
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	1 380	1 330	1 45 0	1 720	1 770	1 810	1 850	1 850
of which Redundancy ⁶	-	-	660	1 060	1 050	1 020	430	430
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	20	20	10	10	10	10	10	10
Strength at end of period 7	38 730	37 660	35 540	34 290	34 250	34 140	33 960	33 960
Army								
Strength at start of period	106 700	108 920	106 240	104 690	105 050	104 240	104 250	104 250
Intake (+) ⁸	13 910	8 760	11 190	10 460	10 030	10 060	10 300	10 300
LTA Intake (+) 4	960	790	620	540	500	480	460	460
Outflow (-)	11 560	11 500	13 200	15 510	15 490	14 960	14 890	14 890
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	3 950	4 2 6 0	4 980	<i>5 460</i>	5 500	5 540	<i>5 530</i>	5 530
of which Redundancy ⁶	-	-	600	2 580	2 610	2 060	2 060	2 060
LTA Outflow (-) 4	1,080	730	630	460	430	400	390	390
Strength at end of period ⁷	108 920	106 240	104 250	99 740	99 670	99 420	99 730	99 730
Royal Air Force								
Strength at start of period	43 560	44 050	42 460	40 890	40 750	40 160	40 000	40 000
Intake (+)	3 460	1 410	1 390	1 330	1 340	1 300	1 310	1 310
LTA Intake (+) ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outflow (-)	2 990	3 010	3 850	4 750	4 710	4 290	4 280	4 280
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	1 070	1 070	1 320	1 410	1 430	1 430	1 430	1 430
of which Redundancy ⁶	-	-	440	1 380	1 370	980	980	980
LTA Outflow (-) 4	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strength at end of period ⁷	44 050	42 460	40 000	37 460	37 370	37 160	37 030	37 030

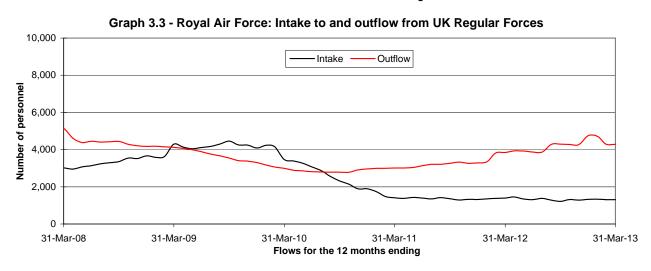
Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

- 1. Figures show Intake to UK Regular Forces, both trained and untrained, which comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including professionally qualified officers) and intake from the reserves. They exclude all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from ranks to officer due to promotion.
- Figures show Outflow from UK Regular Forces, both trained and untrained, including personnel leaving the Services, deaths, recalled reservists on release and outflow to the Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment (which disbanded on 31 March 2008). They do not include promotion from ranks to officers or flows between Services.
- 3. UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel. It does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve personnel and mobilised reservists.
- 4. Long Term Absentees (LTAs) are service personnel who have been absent without leave (AWOL) for more than 21 days.
- 5. Voluntary Outflow is defined as all exits from trained personnel which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.
- 6. Redundancy figures presented will not match those published in the Quarterly Personnel Report (QPR) due to the inclusion of both Trained and Untrained Personnel.
- 7. Strengths at the end of the period may not equal the sum of the strength at the beginning of the period and intervening intake and outflow. This is due to movements between Services.
- 8. From 1 April 2009 onwards, Army intake figures include transfers from the Gurkhas to the UK Regular Forces.

Data from the Joint Personnel Administration System for May 2009 to October 2011 have been reviewed and finalised, therefore some figures may differ from previous publications. Please see the introduction for more details.

Intake to and Outflow from UK Regular Forces





Prior to year ending 31 March 2007, Army outflow included the net flow of personnel from the Regular Armed Forces to Long Term Absentee (LTA). Post 31 March 2007 outflow does not include this flow to LTA. See Glossary for more details.

For graphs showing the intake to and outflow from the UK Armed Forces by Service see graphs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 in the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

Table 4 - Voluntary Outflow¹ (VO) from trained UK Regular Forces

	Financial Year			12 month period	ending		
				2012	2013	2013	2013
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	31 Dec	31 Jan	28 Feb	31 Mar
All Services							
Officers							
VO number	820	840	1,000	1,070	1,080	1,080	1,080
VO rate ²	2.9	2.9	3.5	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
Other Ranks							
VO number	5 580	5 820	6 750	7 530	7 630	7 700	7 720
VO rate ²	3.9	4.0	4.8	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7
Naval Service							
Officers							
VO number	220	190	200	230	240	240	240
VO rate ²	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7
Other Ranks							
VO number	1 160	1 140	1 250	1 490	1 540	1 580	1 610
VO rate ²	4.1	4.0	4.4	5.6	5.9	6.0	6.2
Army							
Officers							
VO number	450	480	560	620	630	640	640
VO rate ²	3.2	3.4	4.1	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8
Other Ranks							
VO number	3 500	3 780	4 420	4 840	4 870	4 910	4 890
VO rate ²	4.2	4.5	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1
Royal Air Force							
Officers							
VO number	160	180	230	210	210	210	210
VO rate ²	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Other Ranks							
VO number	910	900	1,090	1 200	1 220	1 220	1 220
VO rate ²	2.9	2.8	3.5	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Data from the Joint Personnel Administration System for May 2009 to October 2011 have been reviewed and finalised, therefore some figures may differ from previous publications. Please see the introduction for more details.

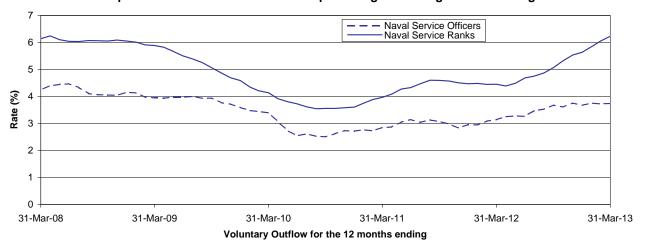
For more information on Voluntary Outflow from UK Regular Forces, see tables 8a and 8b in the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

^{1.} Voluntary Outflow is defined as all exits from Trained UK Regular Forces which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.

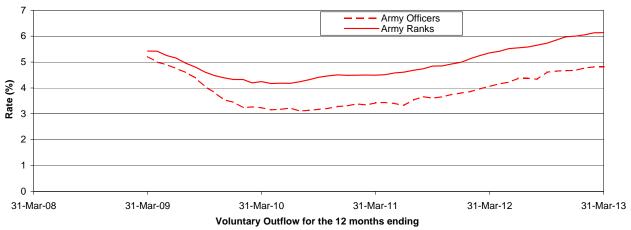
^{2.} VO rate is the percentage of the trained UK Regular Forces that left as VO.

Voluntary Outflow (VO) from UK Regular Forces

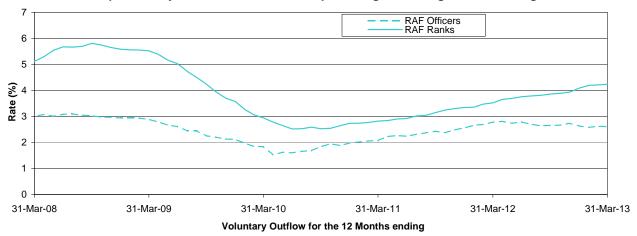
Graph 4.1: Naval Service VO rate as a percentage of average trained strength



Graph 4.2: Army VO rate¹ as a percentage of average trained strength



Graph 4.3: Royal Air Force VO rate as a percentage of average trained strength



^{1.} Army reasons for exit, including VO, are unavailable from the 12 month period ending 31 March 2007 to the 12 month period ending 31 December 2008.

Tables showing data on Voluntary Outflow from 12 months ending 31 March 2006 to 31 March 2007 are shown in TSP 4 tables 12 and 13 which can be found at www.dasa.mod.uk.

Glossary

FTRS (Full-Time Reserve Service) are personnel who fill Service posts for a set period on a full-time basis while being a member of one of the reserve Services, either as an ex-regular or as a volunteer. An FTRS reservist on:

- Full Commitment (FC) fulfils the same range of duties and deployment liability as a Regular Service person;
- Limited Commitment (LC) serves at one location but can be detached for up to 35 days a year;
- Home Commitment (HC) is employed at one location and cannot be detached elsewhere.

Each Service uses FTRS personnel differently:

The Naval Service predominantly uses FTRS to backfill gapped regular posts. However, they do have a small number of FTRS personnel that are not deployable for operations overseas. There is no distinction made in terms of fulfilling baseline Liability posts between FTRS Full Commitment (FC), Limited Commitment (LC) and Home Commitment (HC).

The Army employ FTRS(FC) and FTRS(LC) to fill Regular Army Liability (RAL) posts as a substitute for Regular personnel for set periods of time. FTRS(HC) personnel cannot be deployed to operations and are not counted against RAL.

The RAF consider that FTRS(FC) can fill regular RAF Liability posts but have identified separate liabilities for FTRS(LC) and FTRS(HC).

Gurkhas are recruited and employed in the British and Indian Armies under the terms of the 1947 Tri-Partite Agreement (TPA) on a broadly comparable basis. They remain Nepalese citizens but in all other respects are full members of HM Forces. Since 2008, Gurkhas are entitled to join the UK Regular Forces after 5 years of service and apply for British citizenship.

Intake to UK Regular Forces (as defined in table 3) comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including professionally qualified officers) and intake from the reserves. It excludes all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from the untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from ranks to officer due to promotion.

Joint Personnel Administration JPA is the system used by the Armed Forces to deal with matters of pay, leave and other personal administrative tasks. JPA replaced a number of single-service IT systems and was implemented in April 2006 for RAF, November 2006 for Naval Service and April 2007 for Army.

Liability is the requirement for Armed Forces personnel. The Monthly Personnel Report presents the "Regular Liability" in Table 1.

Long Term Absentees (LTAs) are service personnel who have been Absent without leave (AWOL) for more than 21 days.

Mobilised Reservists are reserves who have been called into full-time service with the Regular Forces on military operations.

Naval Service comprises the Royal Navy (including the Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service) and the Royal Marines combined.

Operational Commitment Establishment (Reserve) (OCE(R)) FTRS(FC) personnel that are deployed to operations can be moved into OCE(R) posts. While they are filling OCE(R) positions, FTRS(FC) personnel are not counted against Regular Army Liability. These are

reported in Table 2 as FTRS personnel serving against an additional requirement along with non-deployable FTRS as defined above.

Outflow from UK Regular Forces includes personnel leaving the Services, deaths, recalled reservists on release and outflow to the Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment (which disbanded on 31 March 2008). They do not include promotion from ranks to officers or flows between Services.

Prior to year ending 31 March 2009, Army outflow included the net flow of personnel from the Regular Armed Forces to Long Term Absentee (LTA). Post year ending 31 March 2009 outflow does not include this flow to LTA.

Trained Strength comprises military personnel who have completed Phase 1 and 2 training.

- Phase 1 Training includes all new entry training to provide basic military skills.
- **Phase 2** Training includes initial individual specialisation, sub-specialisation and technical training following Phase 1 training prior to joining the trained strength.

UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding FTRS personnel, Gurkhas, Naval activated Reservists, mobilised Reservists, MPGS and NRPS. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.

Untrained strength comprises military personnel who have yet to complete Phase 2 training.

Voluntary Outflow is defined as all exits from trained personnel which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.