



Ministry
of Defence

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5 December 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 13 November, clarified in your subsequent email of 21 November requesting the following information:

- '1) *How many British Army applicants travelled to Glencorse Barracks, Penicuik, Midlothian for their first interview in 2012/13.*
- 2) *How much did it cost the MOD in travelling expenses in 2012/13 for this exercise.*
- 3) *How many new applicants failed the drug test in 2012/13 at their first interview.'*

1. The total number of candidates who attended Glencorse Army Assessment Centre in 2012/13 (April to March) was 3970.

2. Travel and subsistence costs are accounted for centrally and cannot be provided specifically in relation to attendance at Glencorse.

3. Candidates do not undergo Compulsory Drugs Testing at Assessment Centres. This only takes place once a candidate has enlisted in the Army. The Army has a zero-tolerance attitude to drug use in service.

The medical entry policy for the Armed Forces states that candidates for whom there is evidence of drug (other than alcohol) dependence in the four years prior to application should be graded unfit for service. If there is unequivocal evidence that the candidate has been drug free for more than four years prior to application then recruitment may be permitted. Candidates that have been diagnosed with misuse of drugs not amounting to drug dependence in the three years prior to application should be graded unfit. If there is good evidence that the three years prior to application have been symptom-free with no ongoing treatment then recruitment may be permitted.

As with other conditions, any candidate failing application or assessment through drug use will only be recorded as a medical failure, and so applicant failure rates for drug use are not held.

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). 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat