



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: FOI2015/01060

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: 2 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter received by the Ministry Of Defence on 28 January 2015 requesting the following information:

“...how many Scottish men and women serve in the UK Armed Forces?”

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by the Ministry of Defence.

We do hold information on Service personnel's nationality and country of birth on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) systems.

However, nationality is only recorded as **British** and therefore we cannot distinguish whether service personnel are Scottish or not from this and additionally country of birth records only record **United Kingdom** so we are unable to identify whether personnel are specifically born in Scotland or not.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance), although not an indicator for how many Service personnel are Scottish; as at 1 October 2014, there were **13,770** MOD personnel **stationed** in Scotland; of which **9,820** were UK Regular military personnel and **3,950** were MOD Civilian personnel.

All these figures are sourced from our Quarterly Location Statistics publication; a detailed regional breakdown for stationed location in Scotland is also available in this publication;
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/376061/QLS_Quarterly_Location_Statistics_October_2014.pdf#page=27

Additionally, please note that the application forms currently make no provision to record nationality as 'Scottish'. Should you wish to enquire regarding this, it is likely that collating these records would be costly and may fall outside the appropriate limit in responding to Freedom of Information requests.

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 Head of Corporate Information, 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>

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering **Military Personnel** and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri Service)