



Ministry
of Defence

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[Redacted]

25 January 2017

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your emails of 22 December 2016 in which you requested the following information:

1. *Would you please provide information on the following aspects of the Gunnery Careers Course (GCC) in the Royal Artillery (RA) over the period 2010 to 2016.*
 - a. *For each year, how many SNCOs were eligible to attend the course?*
 - b. *For each year, how many were selected to attend?*
 - c. *For each year how many passed the course?*
2. *If it is possible to break down the numbers by discipline, ie Strike, ACS, etc, that would be extremely helpful.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held and can be found below.

Part 1:

Royal Artillery Gunnery Careers Course	2014	2015	2016
Number of SNCOs eligible to attend the course	130	120	150
Number of SNCOs selected to attend	45	45	35

Numbers from years prior to 2014 are not held.

Between 2010 and 2016 less than 5 people did not complete the course.

Part 2:

The data in the table below has been retrospectively grouped by the current Pay 2016 trade groups rather than the former Army Main Trades for Pay. The change between the two occurred on 1 April 2016.

The GCC begins in one calendar year and ends in the following. Therefore figures provided in answer to part one are for the year the course begins. The figures for part two are for the year the course ends and therefore do not directly correlate. Additionally, please note that the figures for selected to attend do not necessarily correlate to graduate figures as some individuals selected may not have attended. While the information that we hold has been provided, please note that there are data quality issues with the Trade Group figures as the underlying data is incomplete.

Part 2 Graduates of the Gunnery Careers Course (GCC) by Pay 2016 Royal Artillery (RA)
Trade Group:

Pay 2016 Trade Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Unknown year	Total
RA COMMAND SYSTEMS	~	~	10	5	5	10	~	10	55
RA GUIDED WEAPONS	5	~	~	~	5	5	10	~	40
RA LOGISTICS	-	~	-	-	-	-	-	~	~
RA SPECIAL OBSERVER	-	-	-	-	-	~	-	0	~
RA STRIKE	~	~	10	10	15	10	10	5	60
RA TARGETING	~	~	5	15	10	10	10	10	65
RA TACTICAL UNMANNED AIR SYSTEM PILOT	-	-	-	~	-	-	~	0	~
RA UNMANNED AIR SYSTEM	-	~	5	~	5	5	5	~	35

For both of the enclosed tables, figures have been rounded to the nearest 5. Figures of less than 5 are represented by the ~ symbol. Rounding is necessary, as a means of disclosure control and the preservation of anonymity; it also improves the clarity of output and conveys an appropriate level of precision to users.

Please note that these figures are single service estimates only and are not official statistics produced by Defence Statistics.

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 Information Rights Compliance team, 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, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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