

Ministry of Defence Main Building (06/K) Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Dear

Thank you for your email of in which you requested the following information:

I am trying to elucidate the level of professional autonomy the British Armed Forces enjoy. To that effect, I need to know how the promotions and appointments system works in the UK, and the role civilians and soldiers play in the process. As far as I understand, the procedure is described in the Pay Warrant 1964.

I would be interested on any information you can provide on this. Specifically, I would appreciate access to the text of that Pay Warrant 1964 and to any other document pertinent to this process of selection for promotion and appointment.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have interpreted Pay Warrant 1964 as Army Pay Warrant 1964. A search for the information has now been completed, and I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence does not hold information within the scope of your request.

Section 16(1) of the FOIA requires the public authority to provide advice and assistance wherever possible. The Promotions and Appointments Warrant 2009 is a Royal Warrant relating to promotions, appointments, rewards and awards to officers and other ranks for all members of Her Majesty's regular and reserve forces. It replaced the relevant manning sections of the Army Pay Warrant 1964 on the introduction of the Armed Forces Act 2006. I have attached a copy of the current Royal Warrant for your information

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, 1st 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.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat