



Ministry of Defence

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3 July 2015

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Thank you for your email of 7 May requesting the following information:

'What has the role of Capita been in Army visits to - and provision of Army resources to - UK schools, colleges and universities since March 2012, when Capita starting delivering all of the Army's recruitment services?

Please give an overview of Capita's role, including the briefing document the Army/Ministry of Defence have provided them with regarding their activities in education establishments.'

I am treating your correspondence as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Since March 2012 the Army has been operating in a partnering arrangement with Capita to deliver Army recruiting. This is known as the Recruiting Partnering Project (RPP). The Army's Recruiting Group comprises a mixture of Capita and Army personnel. As part of the Army in Education outreach programme, the Army has continued to maintain a presence in educational establishments, with the aim of providing advice to young people in academic Year 9 and above on careers in the Army.

Activities include careers presentations; curriculum support activities (such as Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics, preparation for the world of work, mock interviews, and human rights presentations); attendance at Careers Fairs, and Personal Development Activities.

The Army does not recruit in schools. The Army only visits educational establishments when specifically invited to do so.

The RPP contract provides direction from the MOD to Capita to define an education strategy and to implement engagement, which is carried out through the Army in Education programme. The RPP contract is available in redacted form at the following links:

<https://online.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/Common/View%20Notice.aspx?site=1000&lang=en¬iceid=473310&fs=true>

<https://online.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/Common/View%20Notice.aspx?site=1000&lang=en¬iceid=473847&fs=true>

The section of the contract relating to education was previously redacted in full, under section 43(2) of the FOI Act relating to disclosure of information likely to prejudice commercial interests. Due to the time elapsed since this decision we have undertaken a Public Interest Test to determine whether it was still in the public interest to withhold this information. It has now been determined that, on balance, the specific information in scope of your request should be released. The relevant extract from the RPP contract is at Annex A.

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, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat