



Ministry of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

27 July 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 11 July 2016 requesting the following information:

I would be grateful if you would provide statistics regarding the trade of RAF Police (other ranks). Specifically, I would be grateful for the following data:

- 1. The percentage chance of reaching 12 years service in the trade of mainstream RAF Police and RAF Police Dog Handler for an ab initio new entrant.*
- 2. The number of new entrants who complete their Phase 2 training and graduate as mainstream RAF Police A/Cpls (unpaid).*
- 3. The percentage of RAF Police recruits who are selected to become Dog Handlers.*
- 4. The percentage chance of reaching further service in the trade of mainstream RAF Police for a Cpl with 12 years service, and the same statistics for RAF Police Dog Handler.*
- 5. The percentage chance of promotion to further ranks and the average LoS on promotion to these ranks for both mainstream RAF Police and RAF Police Dog Handler.*
- 6. The average length of service in this trade (I think that this is referred to as Return of Service).*

I am particularly interested in whether RAF Police Dog Handlers have a different career profile to mainstream RAF Police and a comparison of both would be very helpful.

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

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.

Information to answer all questions for the RAF Police Trade as a whole, with the exception of question three, can be found at Annex A. The RAF only holds information for the RAF Police Trade as a whole and cannot split out RAF Police Dog Handlers from this data.

In Financial Year 2015/16 twenty RAF Police personnel undertook the Patrol Dog Handler Course. RAF Police personnel who train as dog handlers are volunteers who make the individual career choice for this specialist employment. Personnel are sought from across the RAF Police Junior Non-Commissioned Officer cadre and do not necessarily come directly from the RAF Police Initial Course.

In accordance with the Data Protection and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, data has been rounded to the nearest 10. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

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, 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,

[Original signed]

Air Director Resources Secretariat
Air Command