



Ministry of Defence

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22/03/77172

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4 July 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 6 June in which you clarified your request for the following information:

1. *What is the Army's budget breakdown for year 2015/2016, in term of kit and equipment, recruitment, training, salaries, and education or any type of budget break down which army's budget office might hold i.e how much money spent on what?*
2. *How many regular soldiers were serving in the Army in FY2015/16 and out of them how many are commissioned?*
3. *What is the annual budget for 2015/16 for the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst? Similarly, what is the annual budget of ITC Catterick, AFC Harrogate, ATR Winchester and ATC Pirbright?*
4. *How much of the Army's budget went towards the salaries of regular soldiers in FY2015/16? How much of that total salary budget were paid to commissioned officers and how much of that were paid to non-commissioned ranks/soldiers?*
5. *How much money did the army spend on the soldiers academic education in FY2015/16? How much of that money was spent on the commissioned officers academic education and how much of it was spent on the non-commissioned ranks academic education? (academic education i.e. Level 1, Level 2, A levels or degrees)*
6. *How many of the commissioned officers have gained degrees using public money and how many of the non-commissioned ranks have gained degrees using public money in FY2015/16?*

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 information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is shown below. Please note that financial data has been rounded to the nearest £1M, other data has been rounded to the nearest 10.

1. *What is the Army's budget breakdown for year 2015/2016, in term of kit and equipment, recruitment, training, salaries, and education or any type of budget break down which army's budget office might hold i.e how much money spent on what?*

The Army's budget for FY2015/16 is shown in the table below.

Budget Element	£M
Manpower (including training)	5,542
Infrastructure	181
Equipment Support	156
Material	459
Other Costs	124
Total	6,462

The cost of the Army's In-Service Equipment Support programme managed by Defence Equipment & Support (DE&S) was circa £990M; a further £630M was spent by DE&S on acquiring new Equipment for the Army.

2. How many regular soldiers were serving in the Army in FY2015/16 and out of them how many are commissioned?

This information is exempt from release under Section 21 of the Act Information Reasonably Accessible to the Applicant by Other Means. UK armed forces personnel statistics are published monthly on the Government website <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/>. You can find numbers broken down by officers and other ranks in the Excel spreadsheet.

3. What is the annual budget for 2015/16 for the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst? Similarly, what is the annual budget of ITC Catterick, AFC Harrogate, ATR Winchester and ATC Pirbright?

Royal Military Academy Sandhurst	AFC Harrogate	ATC Pirbright	ATR Winchester	ITC Catterick
£9m	£23M	£7M	£4M	£11M

4. How much of the Army's budget went towards the salaries of regular soldiers in FY2015/16? How much of that total salary budget were paid to commissioned officers and how much of that were paid to non-commissioned ranks/soldiers?

Regular Cohort by Element (paid strength)	Salary Cost £M
Commissioned Officers	570
Other Ranks	1,900
Total	2,470

5. How much money did the army spend on the soldiers academic education in FY2015/16? How much of that money was spent on the commissioned officers academic education and how much of it was spent on the non-commissioned ranks academic education?

Academic education has been interpreted as higher education and further education courses and qualifications which includes functional skills, apprenticeships and full-time and part-time higher education. It excludes military training that is accredited with civilian qualifications which is not funded as academic education.

During 2015/16, based on both financial and academic year figures, the Army spent £28m on academic education.

Commissioned Officers	£1M
Other Ranks	£27M

In addition to this £14m was spent on Enhanced Learning Credits in FY15/16, including the publicly financed Further Education and Higher Education scheme, which pays the tuition fees for either a first full Level 3 qualification or, if a L3 qualification is already held, the tuition fees for a first degree. It is not possible to separate this cost between officers and other ranks, however eligibility is the same for both.

6. How many of the commissioned officers have gained degrees using public money and how many of the non-commissioned ranks have gained degrees using public money in FY2015/16?

Six officers completed a full-time masters degree on the Higher Defence Studies Programme for which six personnel (not restricted to officers) are selected each year.

150 officers are currently undertaking a part-time Masters degree through Kings College London (starting in FY15/16). This accredits work completed on the Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Land).

50 officers are currently undertaking a part-time Open University Bachelors degree in International Studies (starting in FY15/16).

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

Yours sincerely,



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