



Ministry  
of Defence

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[REDACTED]

3 March 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 26 February 2015 requesting the following information:

"I would be grateful if you would provide statistics regarding the Royal Navy (Fleet Air Arm) Pilot branch as a New entrant.

1. The percentage chance of reaching further service as a new entrant RN Pilot.
2. The percentage chance of a pilot attaining promotion to further ranks and average LoS on promotion to these ranks. Could you also provide the percentage chance of promotion between ranks having already achieved the previous rank.
3. The average length of service in this branch (I think that this is referred to as Return of Service)."

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested and the answer to your request is attached at Annex A to this letter..

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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

A thick black horizontal bar used to redact the signature of the sender.

**Table 1. The chance of achieving length of service, in years, for a new entrant Royal Navy (RN) Fleet Air Arm (FAA) Pilot**

	Length of Service	New entrant
Chance of achieving Length of Service	0	91%
	1	86%
	2	83%
	3	80%
	4	76%
	5	74%
	6	73%
	7	70%
	8	69%
	9	67%
	10	64%
	11	60%
	12	58%
	13	56%
	14	54%
	15	54%
	16	44%
	17	38%
	18	35%
	19	34%
	20	31%
	21	29%
	22	26%
	23	24%
	24	21%
	25	21%
	26	20%
	27	18%
	28	17%
	29	17%
	30	15%
	31	14%
	32	11%
	33	11%
	34	8%
	35	5%
	36	2%
	37	1%
	38	0%
	39	0%
	40	0%

**Table 2. The percentage chance of a paid rank promotion for RN FAA Pilot**

		Start Rank						
		OF-1	OF-2	OF-3	OF-4	OF-5	OF-6	OF-7 & ABOVE
Chance of promotion to before leaving the Armed Forces	OF-2	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	OF-3	43%	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	OF-4	13%	18%	33%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	OF-5	4%	6%	12%	36%	100%	100%	100%
	OF-6	2%	2%	4%	14%	36%	100%	100%
	OF-7 & ABOVE	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	100%

**Table 3. Expected length of service (LOS) in and on promotion to the rank for RN FAA Pilot**

Rank	Expected LOS in rank	Expected LOS on promotion to the rank
OF-1	2.4	
OF-2	10.1	2.8
OF-3	9.5	13.3
OF-4	6.7	21.4
OF-5	5.0	27.5
OF-6	2.8	31.6
OF-7 & ABOVE	6.4	29.6

**Table 4. The average length of service, in years, of a new entrant RN FAA Pilot**

Expected LOS	14.6
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I hope you find this information helpful. It should be noted that in table 1 the chance of achieving a particular length of service refers to completing the year. For example, in this table, 9% of pilots did not complete a full year, therefore exited in year '0'.