



Ministry of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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Ref: FOI2015/08165

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

15 October 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your email dated 19 September 2015 requesting the following information:

- 1) *By rank, how many Officers are currently serving in a permanently reduced medical category, having been to NSMEB?*
- 2) *Does an NSMEB consider the effect on manning and promotion when reaching a decision on an individual, given that the retention of MLD personnel does in fact block promotion for other fully deployable personnel?*

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The information you requested is detailed below:

1)

RN/RM Officers	Total
OF1 S/Lt, Lt RM	7
OF2 Lt, Capt RM	92
OF3 Lt Cdr, Maj RM	129
OF4 Cdr, Lt Col RM	67
OF5 Capt RN, Col RM	14
OF6 Cdre, Brig RM	2
Total	311

2) The NSMEB carries out its work strictly in accordance with the criteria laid down in BR1991 Chapter 8. In particular, Article 0819a(6) states that "The effect of retention on other members of the branch or sub-specialisation (number of permanent downgraded personnel already retained in branch; sea to shore ratio; promotion/advancement; assignment restrictions; branch and career structure)" is to be considered. For each individual case a statement is made by the individual's Career Manager and their Branch Manager which considers the effect that retention would have on the remainder of the branch, including promotion flows. An individual will not be retained by the NSMEB if this would cause significant disadvantage to other members of that branch/specialisation

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

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section