



Ministry
of Defence

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E-mail address:
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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 25 June, in which you requested the following information:

1. *Do all Army Reserve regiments appoint honorary Colonels?*
2. *Who makes the decision to appoint an honorary Colonel in Army Reserve regiments?*
3. *A list of honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland*
4. *How many current honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland:*
 - a. *Have had no regular army experience?*
 - b. *Have had Territorial Army/Army Reserve experience of 3 years or less?*
 - c. *Have held a rank no higher than Lieutenant in the Territorial Army/Army Reserve?"*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm information in scope of your request is held.

The information is as follows:

1. Do all Army Reserve regiments appoint honorary Colonels?

All Reserve Regiments where a Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel is in command are entitled to have an Honorary Colonel.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA, "duty to provide advice and assistance", you may find it useful to know that there are other circumstances where an Honorary Colonel can be appointed:

Other than in exceptional circumstances, no appointments may be made to sub-units. Exceptional circumstances would be when a Reserve Squadron is part of a Regular Regiment; the Reserve Squadron may have an Honorary Colonel appointed if the Regiment can put up a strong enough case. For example, 254 Signal Squadron is part of the 15 Signal Regiment (a Regular Regiment) and has an Honorary Colonel.

An independent unit of a Major's command may also have an Honorary Colonel appointed. An independent unit under a Major's command would be a Squadron which is not part of a Regiment. For example, the 81 Signal Squadron is not part of any Signal Regiment.

Honorary Colonels may be appointed, if considered desirable, to a composite group of units on the basis of one Honorary Colonel per 450 volunteers. An example of a composite group of units is the 170 Engineer Group which comprises five or six works groups.

Each contingent of a University Officers' Training Corps is commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel and is therefore entitled to the appointment of an Honorary Colonel.

2. Who makes the decision to appoint an honorary Colonel in Army Reserve regiments?

In the Army the appointment of an individual to an Honorary Rank starts with a nomination from a Commanding Officer of, usually, a Reserve or Cadet unit which is then staffed through the Chain of Command to a Military 2* (Major General rank), until it reaches the Military Secretary's Honours branch (MS Hons). At this point, if the nominee is a Member of Parliament, Ministerial agreement is sought – as is also the case in the Naval Service and the Royal Air Force. MS Hons then seeks HM The Queen's approval for the appointment. The Military Secretary then writes to the nominee to inform him/her of the appointment.

3. The list of Honorary Colonels based in Scotland is attached.

4. How many current honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland:
- Have had no regular army experience?
 - Have had Territorial Army/Army Reserve experience of 3 years or less?
 - Have held a rank no higher than Lieutenant in the Territorial Army/Army Reserve?

Nine of the current Honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland have had no regular Army experience.

Six of the current Honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland have had Territorial Army/Army Reserve experience of three years or less.

Six of the current Honorary Colonels in Army Reserve regiments based in Scotland have held a rank no higher than Lieutenant in the Territorial Army/Army Reserve.

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, Ground 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

HONORARY COLONEL'S OF ARMY RESERVE UNITS BASED IN SCOTLAND AS AT 01 JULY 2017

Serial	Appointment	Rank, Name & Decorations	Date of Appt	Tenure Expires
1	The Scottish and North Irish Yeomanry Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Dr M A CAMPBELL OBE (Melfort)	24.11.14	24.11.19
2	105 Regiment RA Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Col (Retd) J A B KINLOCH TD (Jim)	1.7.12	1.12.17
3	71 Engineer Regiment Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Appointment Vacant		
4	32 Signal Regiment Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Rt Hon R E DAVIDSON MSP (Ruth)	17.4.17	17.4.22
5	6 th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Brig C A COULL ADC (Charlie)	1.1.16	1.1.21
6	7 th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Brig (Retd) The Hon H B H E MONRO CBE (Hughie)	22.9.14	22.9.19
7	154 Regiment RLC Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	The Rt Hon A P INGRAM PC (Adam)	1.8.13	1.8.17
8	205 (Scottish) Field Hospital Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Mr I W R ANDERSON (Ian)	1.6.12	1.6.17
9	225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Brig (Retd) A H McG MACMILLAN DL (Alistair)	1.2.14	1.2.19
10	106 Battalion REME Army Reserve (Honorary Colonel)	Mr J A CAMPBELL (John)	1.10.15	1.10.20
11	Aberdeen University OTC (Honorary Colonel)	Mr A E H BRADFORD (Andrew)	1.9.11	1.9.18

12	City of Edinburgh Universities OTC (Honorary Colonel)	HRH The Princess Royal KG KT GCVO QSO	21.5.17	See Note 1
13	City of Edinburgh Universities OTC (Honorary Colonel)	Maj Gen (Retd) M L RIDDELL- WEBSTER CBE DSO (Mike)	1.8.14	1.8.19
14	Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities OTC (Honorary Colonel)	Col (Retd) A C C LAPSLEY QVRM TD DL (Allan)	1.3.10	1.3.20
15	Tayforth Universities OTC (Honorary Colonel)	Maj Gen (Retd) K D ABRAHAM CB (Kevin)	1.6.13	1.6.18

Note 1 – Appointment Held at Her Majesty's Pleasure