



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: 13/04/78903/FOI2017/05518

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.uk

Website: www.army.mod.uk

19 June 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 May in which you requested the following information:

Royal Artillery (RA) Commissioning:

1. *How many Officer Cadets applied for commissioning into the Royal Artillery whilst at RMAS in 2013 and 2014 and 2015?*
2. *How many Officer Cadets who had applied to the Royal Artillery for a commission in these years were interviewed?*
3. *How many of these were offered a commission in the Royal Artillery?*

RA Contract Conversion:

How many SSC (DE) Royal Artillery officers were considered for a conversion to IRC in 2014/2015/2016?

4. *How many of these were successful?*
5. *How many IRC (DE) Royal Artillery officers were considered for conversion to Reg C in 2014/15/16?*
6. *How many were successful?*

RA Officer Numbers:

7. *How many officers are in the Royal Artillery by rank 2Lt through to Lt Col?*

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 that information in scope of your request is held and can be found below, along with guidance where necessary on how the information was produced. Please note, the data provided for parts one to six of your request are single service estimates. They are not official statistics and have not been produced by Defence Statistics. All data have been rounded to the nearest 10

RA Commissioning:

Part 1 and Part 2

Every Officer Cadet who puts RA on their Choice of Arm (COA) form is in effect applying for a commission in the RA and is given an interview at a Regimental Selection Board (RSB) at the end of their second term at Sandhurst. Therefore the numbers applying and being interviewed in the years 2013, 14 and 15 are based on those records. Due to incomplete information for 2013 and 2015, the figures for these years are based on calculated estimates.

2013: 120 Officer Cadets*

2014 110 Officer Cadets

2015 90 Officer Cadets*

Part 3: In these three years, 150 Officer Cadets were offered a commission in the RA. All those selected by the RA at RSB are offered a commission in the RA. However, a small number chose another regiment. The resulting RA places are filled with Officer Cadets who are selected from a reserves list. There may also be a few Officer Cadets who are commissioned into the RA through the Sandhurst 'clearing' system. Those who did not apply to the RA as part of the initial COA/RSB process are not included in the RA RSB day's statistics, above.

RA Contract Conversion:

The table below shows the number of those considered for conversion and those successful at the conversion boards.

Year	Reg C Runners	Part 4: Reg C Offered	Part 5: IRC Runners	Part 6: IRCs Offered
2014	40	10	120	40
2015	30	30	140	60
2016	40	30	120	50

RA Officer Numbers:

Part 7: The table below shows Trade Trained RA Officers by Paid Rank as at 1st April 2017

	Total	Direct Entry	Late Entry
Lieutenant Colonel	150	130	20
Major	340	260	80
Captain	360	260	100
Lieutenant	90	90	-
2 nd Lieutenant	50	50	-

Source: Defence Statistics (Army)

"-" denotes zero or rounded to zero

The figures in the above table are for trade trained Regular Officer only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves, but includes those personnel that have transferred from the Gurkhas to the Regular Army. All Officers of Paid Rank Colonel and above are included in Staff regardless of late Arm/Service.

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, 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

