



# Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2017/09010

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Thank you for your email of 15 September 2017 requesting the following information:

*"For the past 7 years:*

- 1. The chances of a Corporal with 6 years' service securing further promotions up to and including WO1*
- 2. The chances of survival for a Corporal from year of service 6 to year of service 22*
- 3. The chances of a Corporal with 6+ yrs service securing a transfer to the SBS*
- 4. The chances of a WO2 or WO1 securing and Extended Career (EC)*
- 5. The chances of a Corporal or Sergeant with 6+ years service securing a Senior Corps Commission (SCC)*
- 6. The chances of promotion for an SCC officer"*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held.

In response to questions 3, 5 6 I can confirm that the information is not held in the requested format.

In response to question 4 whilst we have provided the chance of an OR-4 Royal Marine achieving each length of service over 20 years it is not possible to calculate the chance of a WO1 or WO2 securing an extended career. Ratings and other ranks join on a 12 year Engagement Stage 1 (ES1). Transfer to Engagement Stage 2 is awarded automatically when a rating or other rank has qualified in all aspects for substantive promotion to Corporal RM. An ES2 extends a Royal Marines career to 20 years length of service or age 40, whichever is later. Extended careers beyond this point are on an Engagement Stage 3 (ES3), this is awarded by selection strictly to meet the needs of the Service.

Detailed guidance on Royal Navy and Royal Marines careers can be found at the following link:  
<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/-/media/royal-navy-responsive/documents/reference-library/br-3-vol-1/chapter-49.pdf>

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that data held by Defence Statistics cannot separately identify personnel who have secured a commission through the Senior Corps Commission (SCC) scheme.

You may also find it helpful to note that the analysis provided includes both Royal Marine General Service and Royal Marine Band Service.

The remaining information you have requested can be found in the Annex.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics Navy

## Annex

**Table 1. The chances an OR-4 Royal Marine with Length of Service (LOS) 6 years will achieve each LOS before exiting:**

Length of Service (years)	Chance of Completing length of service
0	100%
1	100%
2	100%
3	100%
4	100%
5	100%
6	100%
7	91%
8	84%
9	76%
10	71%
11	68%
12	62%
13	57%
14	52%
15	49%
16	47%
17	45%
18	42%
19	41%
20	39%
21	37%
22	30%
23	25%
24	21%
25	18%
26	16%
27	14%
28	12%
29	10%
30	9%
31	8%
32	7%
33	6%
34	5%
35	4%
36	4%
37	3%
38	1%
39	0%
40	0%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

**Table 2. Chance of promotion for an OR-4 Royal Marine with Length of Service (LOS) 6.**

Rank		Chance of Promotion to rank
OR-6	Sergeant	56%
OR-7	Colour Sergeant	41%
OR-8	Warrant Officer 2	24%
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	8%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

**Table 3. Expected LOS in rank and expected LOS on promotion to rank, in years, for an OR-4 Royal Marine with Length of Service (LOS) 6.**

Rank		Expected LOS in Rank	Expected LOS on promotion to the rank
OR-4	Corporal	5.3	N/A
OR-6	Sergeant	4.8	12.0
OR-7	Colour Sergeant	4.3	16.9
OR-8	Warrant Officer 2	5.0	20.1
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	7.3	23.7

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

### Notes

*Expected LOS in table 1 is calculated by using the averages of historic data and represents full years of completed service.*

*Averages are produced using the time period 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2017.*

*Exiting denotes anything that results in an ending of Regular service e.g. time expiry, voluntary outflow, death etc.*

*In Table 3 'Expected LOS in rank' includes all exits from that rank, for example promotion to the next rank or exiting the service.*

*Note that for the current rank this is expected LOS in rank from 1 April of the year from which the forecast is being run. You will need to add on LOS up to 1 April of that year to get total expected LOS in the current rank).*