



Ministry  
of Defence

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Reference: **FOI 2018 07356**

Date: **02/0718**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 requesting the following information:

**“How many service personnel are currently at rank OF-7 or above? How many of these people have their ethnicity as recorded on the JPA database as being of white background?”**

**What is the highest rank of a BAME officer and how many of them are there at that level in each of the services?”**

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

We have now completed a search for the information you requested and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held.

There are 132 Regular service personnel at OF-7 or above in the Armed Forces, all of whom report white ethnicity on our JPA records as at 1 April 2018.

The highest rank where BAME officers are present is OF-6 of which there are fewer than five as at 1 April 2018. The number has been suppressed as fewer than five due to risk of disclosure.

The Ministry of Defence is committed to recruiting and retaining the best possible people from across the country, regardless of background, gender, ethnicity, working pattern, caring responsibilities, sexual orientation. In order to make the Defence workforce more representative of society the Defence Diversity and Inclusion Programme (DDIP) was established to increase the diversity of the civilian and military workforce, and to create a more inclusive working environment in which people are able to reach their full potential.

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). 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/>.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering **Military Personnel** and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing [DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)