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Ref: FOI2020/01515

03 March 2020

Dear ██,

Thank you for your email of 05 February 2020 requesting the following information:

"Could you please provide me with the following information regarding the career and length of service prospects for a male RAF Air Traffic Controller [now NCC trade]*:*

> *The percentage chance of a male FS ATC with 27 years' service completing further service up to and including 40 years total service.*

> *The chances of promotion and time to promotion to WO for a Male FS ATC with 27 years' service."*

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

The information you have requested can be found in the Adobe (.pdf) file attached to the email.

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/.

Yours sincerely,

Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

Would you like to be added to our contact list so we can consult with you if we are thinking about making any changes to the statistics we compile? Please register your interest by e-mailing DefStrat-Stat-Air@mod.gov.uk

Career Projections for *Male* Flight Sergeants with 27 years Length of Service in the Non-Commissioned Controller Trade

LoS[1]	% chance of reaching LoS
27	100%
28	90%
29	86%
30	77%
31	68%
32	68%
33	59%
34	53%
35	47%
36	39%
37	29%
38	18%
39	4%
40	2%

	% chance of *male* being promoted in to rank	% chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank[2]	Average *total* length of service on promotion in to rank
FS	100%		
WO	39%	64%	29 years 6 months

Survival Curve

[1] 'LoS x' means 'LoS greater than or equal to x but less than x+1'. So 'LoS31', for example, is the chance of *male* personnel serving more than or equal to 31 years but less than 32 years.

[2] 'Chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank' considers all *male* personnel in the trade and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained *male* personnel within the trade.

Notes:
a. These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2012/13 – 2018/19. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - *male* **FSs** in the **NCC** trade with **27yrs LoS** - average career projections have been calculated.
b. As of 01 April 2018, SNCO Air Traffic Controllers and SNCO Weapons Controllers were amalgamated into a new single Non-Commissioned Controller trade. These figures include projections for personnel in all three of these trades.
c. Defence Statistics' career forecasts are not based on the actual experience of any one individual, but rather are based on the historical behaviour of individuals with similar characteristics.

Government Statistical Service