



Ministry  
of Defence

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Reference: **FOI2020/05766**

Date: **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 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.

As to part 1 of your request; as at 1 April 2020 there are 140 Regular personnel at a rank of OF-7 and above.

As to part 2 of your request; as at 1 April 2020 of the 140 Regular personnel at a rank of OF-7 and above; all 140 have an ethnicity declared as white.

As to part 3 of your request the highest rank of a Regular BAME officer is OF-6 and there are less than 5 personnel at this rank, who are split between the Royal Navy/Royal Marines, the Army, and the RAF.

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.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.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 [Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)