



Ministry
of Defence

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30 September 2020

Dear XXXXXX,

Thank you for your letter of 20 August in which you requested the following information:

For the period 01 April 2012 to 31 March 2020:

1. *The average time taken to promote to each soldier rank in the RLC trade of Petroleum Operator. That is the average time taken from point of enlistment (as calculated by both DASA and DS) to LCpl, Cpl, Sgt, SSgt, WO2 and WO1.*
2. *The percentage chance of promotion to the next higher rank from each rank — that is Pte to LCpl, LCpl to Cpl, Cpl to Sgt, Sgt to SSgt, SSgt to WO2 and WO2 to WO1.*
3. *The percentage chance of promotion to each soldier rank from Pte.*

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 the MOD holds information within the scope of your enquiry.

In answer to your first question, the average time taken to promote to each soldier rank in the RLC trade of Petroleum Operator is shown in the table below.

Rank	Average time taken to promote to Rank
LCpl	5y 7m
Cpl	7y 6m
Sgt	10y 8m
SSgt	13y 8m
WO2	18y 3m
WO1	19y 8m

The answers to questions two and three are shown in the table below. Please note that data is only available for the last three years. Further, the boards for Pte-LCpl 2020 and WO2-WO1 2020 have not yet been released so this information has not been included.

Year	LCPL	CPL	SGT	SSGT	WO2	WO1
2018	45%	57%	41%	54%	33%	33%
2019	32%	39%	26%	50%	44%	34%
2020	N/A	44%	34%	42%	35%	N/A

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

Manning Team, Army Secretariat