



Ministry  
of Defence

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12 August 2021

Dear 

Thank you for your email of 13 July in which you requested the following information:

*“For the last 4 years, how many people:*

- 1a. Applied to transfer to the Army Welfare Service*
- 1b. Were accepted*

*What is the percentage chance of being promoted to:*

- 2a. SSgt*
- 2b. WO2 from SSgt*
- 2c. WO1 from WO2*

*For the last 4 years, how many Army Welfare Workers were:*

- 3a. Awarded VEng (Long)*
- 3b. Applied for LE Commissions*
- 3c. Awarded LE Commissions”*

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 information in scope of your request is held and is given below. Please note that the answers are numbered, but not in order due to specific caveats relating to different data sources.

Q.1a. Military applications to transfer to AWS 2017- 2021

Year	Applications
2017	20
2018	21
2019	18
2020	17
2021	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>

Q.3b AWS who have applied for a Late Entry commission within the AGC(SPS):

2018	
2019	
2020	
2021	

Notes/Caveats:

1. Please note that the figures provided are single Service estimates based on data which is not gathered for statistical purposes or subject to the same level of scrutiny as official statistics produced by Defence Statistics. The figures provided may therefore be subject to data quality issues affecting their accuracy.
2. Answers to Questions 1a and 3b are provided in Calendar Years.
3. “~” denotes fewer than 5.
4. “-“ denotes zero.

Q1b. Regular Trade Trained Transfers to AWW in Financial Years (FYs) 2017/18 to 2020/21

	<b>AWW Transfers</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>

Source: Analysis  
(Army)

Q.2a, b & c. Regular Trade Trained Personnel percentage chance of promotions across the Total Army and in the AGC (SPS) Army/Service for FYs 2013/14 to 2019/20

<b>% chance of promotion to Paid Rank:</b>	<b>Total Army</b>	<b>AGC (SPS)</b>
SSgt from Sgt	72.6%	73.3%
WO2 from SSgt	70.7%	72.0%
WO1 from WO2	42.2%	29.0%
		Source: Analysis (Army)

Q.3a & c. Regular Trade Trained AWW awarded VEng (Long) contracts and LE Commissions in FYs 2017/18 to 2020/21

	<b>VEng (Long)</b>	<b>LE Commission<sup>7</sup></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	~
		Source: Analysis (Army)

Notes/Caveats:

1. The figures are for the Trade Trained Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves, but includes those personnel that have transferred from GURTAM to UKTAP.
2. Army Welfare Workers have been identified using personnel's Main Trade for Pay as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration System. Main Trade for Pay is only attributable to personnel within the Soldier population and therefore will not include Officers.
3. Answer to Question 2 refers to AGC(SPS) as a whole and does not reflect only AWWs.
4. The statistics contained within the answer to question 2 are based on averages of seven years data to 31st March 2020. These averages are used to avoid small populations and the spurious rates that may result. The use of several years' data reduces fluctuations caused by one-off factors.

5. Caution should be exercised with regards to interpretation of figures in question 2. They are constructed from behaviour for Regular Army personnel covering several contracts/engagements.
6. Question 2 figures form a statistical average for the Regular Army and do not relate to the terms and conditions associated with any particular contract.
7. Fewer than 5 Army Welfare Workers were awarded LE Commissions within the time period, however none of them remained in the AGC(SPS) Arm/Service.
8. Question 3a and 3c figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality.
9. "~" denotes 5 or fewer.

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](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,

Workforce 2  
Army Policy & Secretariat