



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: FOI2021/09189

[Redacted]

Date: 17/09/2021

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for your email of 20/07/2021 requesting the following information:

“Soldier career progression (for all ranks) by Arm/Corp and Infantry Division for each service (Army/RNRM/RAF) for the financial years 2014/15 to 2019/20 and calendar years 2014 to 2020.”

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

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds some of the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to retrieve information in scope of your request would involve running the career progression tool for each Branch and Trade, which would take approximately 15-30 minutes each. The number of Branches and Trades vary between the Services, an average of 101 between them, which would take at least some 6 man days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 16 advice and assistance, the MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit, for example, the percentage chance of promotion (for all ranks) for each service (Army/RNRM/RAF). Please contact us if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

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 Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Analysis (Tri-Service)