



Ministry of Defence

Army Policy and Secretariat
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31 January 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 4 January 2023 in which you requested the following information:

Could I have the number of personnel who were dismissed from the Army or Navy for a failed CDT drug test and successfully rejoined their respective service. Personnel numbers from 2018-2022 will suffice.

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 below in Annex 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,

[REDACTED]

Army Policy & Secretariat

Annex A

Table 1. Army Regulars who have rejoined the Army after being discharged due to a failed CDT between 1 January 2018 and 1 October 2022, by population rejoined into

Calendar Year of Discharge	Total Rejoins	Population rejoined into	
		Regular	Other
Total	55	35	20
2018	40	35	10
2019	10	~	10
2020	~	~	-
2021	-	-	-
2022 up to 1 October 2022	-	-	-

Source: Analysis (Army)

Source: Army Workforce Policy

- Please be advised that the Navy policy from the Book of Reference 3 Chapter 12 states that “No former rating/OR is permitted to re-enter who was discharged: (1) Deserted. (2) Dismissed. (3) Services No Longer Required (SNLR) (including those discharged following a Compulsory Drug Test (CDT))”. As a result, the total number of personnel who rejoined the Navy for this duration is **0**.

Notes/Caveats:

1. Figures are for personnel who were discharged from the Regular Army only and therefore exclude any personnel discharged from 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. "Other" refers to personnel who have rejoined to Military Provost Guard Service or Volunteer Reserve after having been discharged from the Regular Army due to a failed CDT. This excludes personnel rejoining to any other non-Regular Army population.
3. Policy dictates that Service Personnel discharged for failing a CDT need to observe 2 years before being eligible to apply to rejoin the Army.
4. Table 1 only represents personnel who have rejoined prior to 1 October 2022.
5. The data have been rounded to the nearest 5 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality.
6. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not appear to be the sum of their parts.
7. "-" denotes zero.
8. "~" denotes fewer than 5.