



Ministry of Defence

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20 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2023 in which you requested the following information:

What has been the strength/number of members for the University Officer Training Corps in the years since 2018? Could this please be broken down by year and unit (Oxford, Bristol, Leeds, Birmingham etc).

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 information in scope of your request is held and has been provided at 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 Reserve Army Group B UOTC Officer Strength as at 1 April and 1 October each year, 2018 to 2022, by Unit

UOTC Unit	Date									
	01 April 2018	01 October 2018	01 April 2019	01 October 2019	01 April 2020	01 October 2020	01 April 2021	01 October 2021	01 April 2022	01 October 2022
Reserve Army Group B UOTC Officers	3,760	2,840	3,670	2,780	3,590	2,980	3,800	2,860	3,460	2,560
Aberdeen UOTC	210	130	150	150	160	150	90	70	80	60
Birmingham UOTC	140	120	150	110	150	130	190	140	180	130
Bristol UOTC	230	170	200	150	200	160	220	140	190	140
Cambridge UOTC	210	170	200	130	170	130	130	110	140	120
City of Edinburgh UOTC	180	150	200	140	160	150	140	120	130	100
East Midlands UOTC	180	130	190	140	200	180	250	170	220	170
Exeter UOTC	190	140	190	160	230	190	250	190	210	160
Glasgow and Strathclyde UOTC	170	130	160	120	150	110	160	120	140	110
Leeds UOTC	140	100	160	120	160	130	160	120	150	120
Liverpool UOTC	130	90	150	110	170	120	160	120	140	130
London UOTC	360	250	360	240	320	270	360	240	290	200
Manchester and Salford UOTC	140	100	120	80	120	80	120	90	140	100
Northumbria UOTC	240	150	230	160	240	200	270	220	270	220
Oxford UOTC	220	130	220	140	200	170	260	170	240	150
Queens UOTC	180	160	140	100	130	110	140	100	120	70

Sheffield UOTC	110	80	120	110	160	110	130	90	110	90
Southampton UOTC	130	110	150	120	140	110	150	110	140	100
Tayforth UOTC	160	160	160	160	130	110	160	120	140	80
Wales UOTC	210	140	190	140	210	190	260	220	240	160
Defence Technical Undergraduate Scheme (DTUS) cadets	230	220	220	220	200	180	190	200	200	150
<i>of which based in:</i>										
<i>Birmingham (Taurus Squadron)</i>	60	50	50	40	40	20	30	30	20	20
<i>Loughborough (Typhoon Squadron)</i>	30	30	20	30	20	30	30	40	40	30
<i>Southampton (Thunderer Squadron)</i>	70	80	80	80	70	50	60	50	60	50
<i>Northumbria (Trojan Squadron)</i>	80	60	80	70	70	70	70	80	80	60

Source: Analysis Army

Notes/Caveats:

1. Figures are for Untrained Reserve Group B Officers serving in University Officer Training Corps only. This consists of University Officer cadets and those DTUS cadets under Training on Reserve Group B contracts.
2. April and October points have been provided as there is seasonality within this population, consistent with the academic year. UOTC Group B Officer strength is highest between November and January, when new University students are processed. It then reduces throughout the Academic year as cadets leave the UOTC, towards the annually low point during September/October.
3. Figures do not include Reserve Group A personnel serving in the University Officer Training Corps and therefore will exclude those cadets who have received a Commission and still serve within the UOTC and UOTC support and training staff.
4. The Defence Technical Undergraduate Scheme (DTUS) is a sponsorship scheme to provide engineering and technical graduates to the UK Armed Forces. DTUS cadets join the affiliated DTUS Support Unit for their university or the nearest UOTC if the former is not established. The Defence STEM Undergraduate Sponsorship (DSUS) scheme will replace DTUS from 2024 with new candidates entering the scheme from September 2022 onwards. All DSUS candidates are required to join the UOTC affiliated with their chosen university.

5. A small number of Untrained Reserve Group B Officers serving in the UOTC are not attributable to any of the units listed above. This applies to no more than 10 personnel at any one date.
6. Figures have been rounded to 10 for presentational purposes; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
7. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not appear to be the sum of their parts.