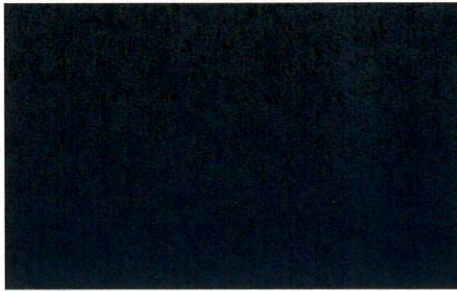




Ministry
of Defence



FOI2020/07794

E-mail: Navysef-foimailbox@mod.gov.uk



28 September 2020

Dear [Redacted],

Release of Information

Further to our correspondence of 7 August 2020, we are now in a position to provide you with a substantive response to your request for the following information:

'Thank you for your clarification message.

In response - please see below (updates in bold):

Could you please provide me with the following length of service and promotion statistics:

Trade: Aircraft Handler

For a New Entrant:

- Length of service (chance of survival) statistics from entry to 35 years
- Promotion.
- o Chance of promotion to each rank from AB to WO1
- o Expected length of service on promotion to each rank
- o Expected length of service in each rank
- If the information could be provided in the following format, it would be much appreciated:

Rank Expected LOS on Promotion Expected LOS in Rank % Chance of Promotion to Given Rank from:

AB2/1	LH	PO	CPO
AB2/1			
LH			
PO			

CPO
WO1

In addition please could you let me know

- As at the latest available date - The number of Aircraft Handlers currently serving on an ES3, by rank and age
- As at the latest available date - The structure of the Aircraft Handler Branch - trained strength by rank
- If available, for the last 7 years - By rank, the number of Aircraft Handlers applying for a Senior Upper Yardman and the number successful
- As at the latest available date - The number of Environmental Health Officers currently serving within the Medical Branch?

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

As explained in our interim response, a search was completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and it was confirmed information in scope of your request was held by the Department. However, it was also explained that it was considered that some of the information you require may fall within the scope of the qualified exemption under Section 26 (Defence) of the FOI Act. Following further consideration, it has been determined that this exemption no longer applies to this request.

In response to your request, the information you are seeking can be found at Annex A to this letter. Please be advised however, that information on the number of Senior Upper Yardman applications submitted by Aircraft Handlers for the last seven years is not held by the Department.

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

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section

ANNEX A
to FOI2020/07794
dated 28 September 2020

Table 1. The chance a New Entrant Royal Navy Aircraft Handler will achieve each length of service (LOS) before exiting:

Length of Service (Years)	Chance of completing length of service
0	88%
1	80%
2	76%
3	72%
4	64%
5	58%
6	53%
7	46%
8	43%
9	38%
10	35%
11	33%
12	31%
13	28%
14	26%
15	25%
16	24%
17	23%
18	21%
19	21%
20	20%
21	20%
22	15%
23	11%
24	10%
25	8%
26	7%
27	5%
28	5%
29	4%
30	4%
31	3%
32	3%
33	3%
34	2%
35	2%
36	1%
37	1%
38	1%
39	1%
40	0%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Expected LOS is calculated by using the averages of historic data and represents full years of completed service
2. Exiting denotes anything that results in an ending of Regular service, e.g. time expiry, voluntary outflow, death etc.

Table 2. Chance of promotion for Royal Navy Aircraft Handler from OR-2 to OR-9:

Rank		Joining Rank	Start Rank		
		OR-2	OR-4	OR-6	OR-7
OR-4	Leading Rating	33%			
OR-6	Petty Officer	17%	55%		
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	11%	37%	71%	
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	4%	13%	26%	40%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Promotion rates at the 'Joining Rank' are for a New Entrant, eg showing that the chance of a Royal Navy Aircraft Handler being promoted to OR-9 throughout their career is 4%.
2. 'Start Rank' is the rank at the start of the promotion analysis, ie where a current Royal Navy Aircraft Handler OR-7 has a 40% chance of promotion to OR-9.

Table 3. The expected LOS in rank, and expected LOS on promotion to rank in years, for a New Entrant Royal Navy Aircraft Handler:

Rank		Expected LOS in Rank	Expected LOS on promotion to the rank
OR-2	Able Rating	6.3	N/A
OR-4	Leading Rating	5.5	9.3
OR-6	Petty Officer	6.4	14.1
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	5.0	20.4
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	7.4	25.2

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Expected LOS in rank' includes all exits from that rank, for example promotion to the next rank or exiting the Service.
2. N/A is present because you cannot be promoted to OR-2.

Table 4. Trained Regular Royal Navy Aircraft Handler Other Ranks on an Extended Career, as at 1 April 2020, by Age and Substantive Rank:

Age	
20-24	-
25-29	-
30-34	-
35-39	7
40-44	11
45-49	14
50-54	10
55-59	~
60 and over	-

Substantive Rank		
OR-2	Able Rating	-
OR-4	Leading Rating	~
OR-6	Petty Officer	16
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	13
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	10

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Figures 5 or fewer is represented by '~' and values of 0 represented by '-'.

Table 5. Structure of the Aircraft Handler Branch, Trained Regular, as at 1 April 2020, by Substantive Rank:

Substantive Rank		
OR-2	Able Rating	236
OR-4	Leading Rating	94
OR-6	Petty Officer	55
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	20
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	10

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

Table 6. The number of Environmental Health Officers serving in the Medical Branch, as at 1 April 2020:

Personnel	11
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Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

Table 7. Number of Regular Aircraft Handlers Selected as Senior Upper Yardsman by Rank, 2013 – 2019

Rank		
Total		6
OR-6	Petty Officer	~
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	~

Source: Royal Navy School of Flight Deck Operations

1. Figures 5 or fewer is represented by '~'.

