



Ministry
of Defence



Ref: FOI2021/01507

E-mail: NAVYACNS-SECFOIGroup@mod.gov.uk

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

26 February 2021

Dear [Redacted],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 February 2021 in which you requested the following information:

“Could you please provide the following information for the Royal Navy Catering Service (I understand that the Chef and Steward branches have combined to become the Catering Branch):

1. Length of Service statistics (percentage chance of further service) for a new entrant
2. Promotion statistics - if possible could include the following information:
 - Chance of promotion from the rate of AB
 - Chance of further promotion from each subsequent rate
 - Expected length of service in rate
 - Expected length of service on promotion to rate
3. Strength of the catering Service by rate
4. Number of Catering Service personnel currently serving on an Engagement Stage 3 by rate
5. Age profile of the Catering Service”

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

A search has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and is attached at Annex A to this letter.

The analysis in Tables 1, 2 and 3 has been provided for a Royal Navy (RN) Catering Service New Entrant. New Entrant includes personnel who have joined the RN at the rank of OR-2 (Able Rate) within the previous 12 months as at 1 April each year. The data provided for the chances of survival and chances of promotion are produced using historic data from 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2020. The use of seven years data reduces fluctuations caused by one-off factors and also covers a wider period of the economic cycle which may influence outflow. As the analysis is derived from historic data it will reflect policy measures over that time period and therefore may not be reflective of behaviour under current or future policy conditions. Caution should be taken when interpreting the analysis for higher ranks and longer lengths of service as this is a small population. Whilst the data are an accurate reflection of the chances of promotion and survival for the period used, data for different time periods could give very different results.

Figures include RN Catering Services personnel and Royal Marines (RM) Chefs. In 2013 RM Chefs were amalgamated into the RN Logistics branch, these personnel are now managed as part of the RN.

You may also find it helpful to note the response to question four (Table 5 in the Annex) is comprised of all personnel who have an extended career engagement recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration System (JPA). This includes personnel who received an extended career under equivalent terms prior to the introduction of Engagement Stage 3. Personnel may have an extended career engagement recorded prior to completion of their previous engagement or reaching the requirements to serve on an extended career. Personnel who continue to serve on an Extension of Service after completion of their extended career engagement are also included.

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/>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

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

Length of Service (years)	Chance of Completing Length of Service
0	87%
1	80%
2	76%
3	72%
4	65%
5	57%
6	51%
7	43%
8	38%
9	34%
10	31%
11	29%
12	26%
13	24%
14	23%
15	21%
16	20%
17	20%
18	19%
19	18%
20	18%
21	18%
22	14%
23	10%
24	8%
25	7%
26	7%
27	6%
28	5%
29	5%
30	4%
31	4%
32	3%
33	3%
34	2%
35	2%
36 and Over	1%

Source: Analysis (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 Catering Service from OR-2 to OR9

Substantive Rank		
OR-2/OR-4	Able Rating / Leading Hand	42
OR-6	Petty Officer	41
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	60
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	21

Source: Analysis (Navy)

1. Promotion rates at the 'Joining Rank' are for a New Entrant, e.g. showing that the chance of a Royal Navy Catering Service being promoted to OR-9 throughout their career is 3%
2. 'Start Rank' is the rank at the start of the promotion analysis

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

Rank		Expected LOS in Rank	Expected LOS on Promotion to the Rank
OR-2	Able Rating	5.5	N/A
OR-4	Leading Rating	6.3	7.3
OR-6	Petty Officer	6.2	14.0
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	6.9	19.3
OR-8	Warrant Officer 2	7.2	22.4
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	6.9	26.7

Source: Analysis (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. Strength of Trained Regular Royal Navy Catering Service as at 1 October 2020, by Substantive Rank:

Substantive Rank		
OR-2	Able Rating	551
OR-4	Leading Hand	321
OR-6	Petty Officer	157
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	89
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	22

Source: Analysis (Navy)

Table 5. Trained Regular Royal Navy Catering Service on an Extended Career, as at 1 October 2020, by Substantive Rank:

Substantive Rank		
OR-2/OR-4	Able Rating / Leading Hand	42
OR-6	Petty Officer	41
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	60
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	21

Source: Analysis (Navy)

1. Due to the small number of personnel at OR-2, they have been grouped with OR-4 to avoid unintended disclosure of individuals.

Table 6. Strength of Trained Regular Royal Navy Catering Service as at, 1 October 2020, by Age:

Age	
Under 20	49
20-24	186
25-29	198
30-34	216
35-39	225
40-44	126
45-49	106
50-54	28
55 and Over	6

Source: Analysis (Navy)

