



Ministry
of Defence

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FOI2022/09097

E-mail: NavyStratPol-SECFOI@mod.gov.uk

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

30 August 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 August 2022 in which you requested the following information:

"Dear Royal Marines,

Please could you give, for the years 2000-2021 (inclusive), the following information pertaining to the intake of Royal Marines Young Officers:

- the number of Royal Marines Officer applications received that year
- the number of applicants who took and the number of applicants who passed the Pre-joining Fitness Test/Pre-joining Fitness Test Plus/Royal Navy fitness test
- the number of applicants who attended and the number of applicants who passed the Admiralty Interview Board
- the number of applicants who attended and the number of applicants who passed the Officer Selection Course/Potential Officers Course
- the number of applicants who attended and the number of applicants who passed the Final Selection Board
- the number of applicants who began initial training
- the number of applicants who passed initial training, successfully becoming an officer in the Royal Marines

Please order each stage chronologically as an applicant would encounter them along the recruitment process. Please include any other missing stages in the recruitment process. Please consolidate renamed/altered stages into a single item (e.g. merging the PJFT with PJFT+ and POC with OSC)."

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

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

In response to your request, the available information regarding the intake of Royal Marine Young Officers can be found at Annex A to this letter.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the Act, you may find it useful to note the data in the analysis is comprised from two data sources. Recruitment data is obtained from the Defence Recruiting System (DRS), and training data is taken from Joint Personnel Administration System (JPA). Due to data constraints between these two sources, the time-period provided for each question varies. Data has been provided for the time-period available for each question.

This analysis is not a cohort analysis and therefore the figures provided are the actual number of personnel who attended/passed during the displayed time-period.

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. Number of Applications to Regular Royal Marine Officers by financial year*

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Applications	1246	1398	1592	904

Source: Analysis(Navy)

*** 2021/22 financial year includes Applications made up to 31 December 2021**

1. Application data is taken from the Defence Recruiting System (DRS). Between the introduction of DRS in November 2017 and 1 August 2019 some applications were not recorded on DRS; these applications are not included in the statistics as they cannot be verified and there is a risk of double counting.
2. Figures include applications where personnel have indicated a career preference of Royal Marines officers. Applicant career preference are based on their declared career choice at the time of application. Applicants may change their career choice throughout the process.
3. Number of applications counts each application once, however candidates can make more than one application; therefore, some candidates could be counted twice.

Table 2. Number of personnel who took and passed the Pre-Joining Fitness Test (PJFT) for Royal Marine Officers by financial year

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Personnel taken PJFT	316	225	244	159	146	114	159
Personnel passed PJFT	255	184	213	144	133	93	123

Source: People and Training Directorate

1. It should be noted that that DRS data is not always updated to reflect PJFT fails and therefore the ratio of successful outcomes to bookings for Royal Marine Officers may appear inflated

Table 3. Number of applicants who attended and the number of applicants who passed the Admiralty Interview Board (AIB) for Royal Marine Officers by financial year

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Personnel taken AIB	164	123	98	82	83	129	80
Personnel passed AIB	125	103	84	72	76	97	57

Source: People and Training Directorate

1. It should be noted that that DRS data is not always updated to reflect AIB fails and therefore the ratio of successful outcomes to bookings for Royal Marine Officers may appear inflated

Table 4. Number of applicants who passed the Officer Selection Course/Potential Officers Course for Royal Marine Officers by financial year

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Personnel taken OSC/POC	143	112	118	106	110	1	112
Personnel passed OSC/POC	86	67	57	65	66	-	72

Source: People and Training Directorate

1. '-' represents 0

Table 5. Untrained Intake to Regular Royal Marines Officers from 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2022

12 months to:	31-Mar-01	31-Mar-02	31-Mar-03	31-Mar-04	31-Mar-05	31-Mar-06
Total Untrained intake	40	56	51	34	52	51

12 months to:	31-Mar-07	31-Mar-08	31-Mar-09	31-Mar-10	31-Mar-11	31-Mar-12
Total Untrained intake	53	55	52	54	52	42

12 months to:	31-Mar-13	31-Mar-14	31-Mar-15	31-Mar-16	31-Mar-17	31-Mar-18
Total Untrained intake	47	48	53	46	36	44

12 months to:	31-Mar-19	31-Mar-20	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-22
Total Untrained intake	48	50	55	54

Source: Analysis(Navy)

Table 6. Gains to Trained Strength of Regular Royal Marines Officers from Untrained from 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2022

12 months to:	31-Mar-01	31-Mar-02	31-Mar-03	31-Mar-04	31-Mar-05	31-Mar-06
Untrained to Trained	27	41	55	68	43	52

12 months to:	31-Mar-07	31-Mar-08	31-Mar-09	31-Mar-10	31-Mar-11	31-Mar-12
Untrained to Trained	43	40	91	83	72	41

12 months to:	31-Mar-13	31-Mar-14	31-Mar-15	31-Mar-16	31-Mar-17	31-Mar-18
Untrained to Trained	49	50	56	56	44	43

12 months to:	31-Mar-19	31-Mar-20	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-22
Untrained to Trained	41	45	32	46

Source: Analysis(Navy)

1. Personnel who joined the Royal Marine Officer Strength as Trained, and therefore did not go through initial training, are not included