



Ministry of Defence

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Mr Luke Duckworth

[request-336953-7b035522@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

24 June 2016

Dear Mr Duckworth,

Thank you for your email of 27 May in which you requested the following information:

The number of Late Entry Commissions in the Infantry for each of the years 2008 to 2015 and the % chance of securing a LE Commission.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 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. The information you requested can be found below and attached:

Defence Statistics have previously produced the percentage chance of achieving a Late Entry (LE) Officer commission, in 2011.

A Private who joins the Infantry has a 1.3% chance of receiving an LE commission in their career, compared to a 2% chance in the total Regular Army.

Please note the following caveats:

1. These statistics are based on averages of seven years data ending March 2010. These averages are used to avoid small populations and spurious rates that may result. The use of several years data reduces fluctuations caused by one-off factors and also covers a wider period of the economic cycle which can influence outflow. Data for years 2006/07 and 2008/09 have been excluded (therefore the data use is drawn from 2001/02 – 2005/06 and 2008/10 – 2009/10) due to issues of data quality and availability surrounding the cessation of legacy systems and the introduction of JPA.
2. Caution should be exercised with regards to interpretation of these statistics. They are constructed from behaviour for Army personnel covering a number of contracts/engagements. They form a statistical average for the Army and do not relate to the terms and conditions associated with any particular contract.
3. These statistics also do not take account of the application of specific measures which will influence careers, for example, redundancy.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall,

SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat