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Ref: FOI2016/05616/13/04/77161

Mr Luke Duckworth

22 June 2016

request-336954-bbe84a38@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Duckworth

Thank you for your email of 27 May requesting the following information:

- 1. How many Versatile Engagement (Long) engagements were offered to Colour Sergeants/Staff Sergeants and Warrant Officers in the Infantry in the years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- 2. What is this as a percentage of the total number of SNCOs' and WOs' in the Infantry in each year.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that Versatile Engagement (Long) engagements would only be offered to those Infantry soldiers employed in Senior Soldier Career Posts. Whilst information on the number of offers made is not held, the Ministry of Defence may be able to provide information on the total numbers by year who accepted offers of Versatile Engagement (Long) engagements.

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