



Ministry  
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section  
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2015-00141

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 8 January 2015 requesting information on statistics regarding the applicants for commissioning, over the last five years, in the Pilot branch of the Royal Navy specifically the number of applicants, number boarded and intake number.

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

I am able to confirm that the Department holds the information within the scope of your request:

All initial applications Aircrew, which includes Pilots, Observers and Air Traffic Controllers, are made to the Air Branch in general as Aircrew applicants, although re-entrants may be permitted to apply specifically to the branch in which they were previously trained. Likewise, Admiralty Interview Board (AIB) candidates are boarded for the Air Branch as a whole. Dependent upon the results of the AIB and Flying Aptitude Test results, candidates are then streamed to specific branches at selection. The figures for applicants and AIB below show those who applied and were boarded as Aircrew and specific Pilot roles (Pilot numbers are a subset of the overall Aircrew applicant numbers).

Q1. Number of applicants  
A1.

	Aircrew applicants overall total	Pilot only total
2009/2010	230	110
2010/2011	280	180
2011/2012	100	160
2012/2013	140	180
2013/2014	170	180

Q2. Number boarded

A1.

	Aircrew applicants overall total	Pilot only total
2009/2010	60	50
2010/2011	60	20
2011/2012	30	10
2012/2013	20	20
2013/2014	30	30

Q3. Intake number

A1.

	Pilot only total
2009/2010	60
2010/2011	40
2011/2012	10
2012/2013	10
2013/2014	20

It should also be explained that if a candidate applies in one year it may be that they will not be boarded until the following year. Similarly, if an applicant is boarded in one year they may not receive an entry date until the following year or later, the effect of which is to produce a degree of overlap in the totals for boarding and intake from year-to-year.

In accordance with departmental practice these manpower statistics have been rounded to the nearest ten with numbers ending in five rounded up.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

