



PQW/19-21/2021/02646

18 March 2021

Dear Bob,

I apologise for misunderstanding your parliamentary question of 9 March 2021 which asked: *To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the strength is of each (a) English, (b) Scottish, (c) Welsh, (d) Irish and (e) Gurkha battalion. (165484).*

I have now obtained the information that I believe answers your question and have provided it below. I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

**Table 1: Trade Trained Regulars Infantry by Battalion**

Battalion	Regular Strength
<b>English</b>	
<b>The Grenadier Guards</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards incl Nijm Coy (PDIC)</i>	550
<b>The Coldstream Guards</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards incl 7 Coy (PDIC)</i>	540
<b>The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</i>	520
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</i>	210
<b>The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment</i>	510
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment</i>	210
<b>The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers</i>	560
<b>The Royal Anglian Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment</i>	490
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment</i>	500

The Rt Hon Bob Stewart MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

<b>The Yorkshire Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment</i>	510
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment</i>	500
<b>The Mercian Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment</i>	520
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment</i>	450
<b>The Rifles</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Rifles</i>	560
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Rifles</i>	560
<i>of which 3rd Battalion The Rifles</i>	600
<i>of which 4th Battalion The Rifles</i>	200
<i>of which 5th Battalion The Rifles</i>	610
<b>Scottish</b>	
<b>The Scots Guards</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion Scots Guards incl F Coy (PDIC)</i>	520
<b>The Royal Regiment of Scotland</b>	
<i>of which The Royal Scots Borders, 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	190
<i>of which The Royal Highland Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	460
<i>of which The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	430
<i>of which The Highlanders, 4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	510
<i>of which The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	70
<b>Irish</b>	
<b>The Irish Guards</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion Irish Guards</i>	400
<b>The Royal Irish Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment</i>	470
<b>Welsh</b>	
<b>The Welsh Guards</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion Welsh Guards</i>	400
<b>The Royal Welsh</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Royal Welsh</i>	580

**Table 2: Trained FR20, Infantry by Battalion (excluding bands)**

<b>Battalion</b>	<b>FR20 Strength</b>
<b>English</b>	
<b>The London Regiment</b>	
<i>of which The London Regiment</i>	180
<b>The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 3rd Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</i>	230
<i>of which 4th Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment</i>	230
<b>The Duke of Lancaster's Royal Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 4th Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment</i>	270
<b>The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers</b>	
<i>of which 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers</i>	370
<b>The Royal Anglian Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment</i>	340
<b>The Yorkshire Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 4th Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment</i>	280
<b>The Mercian Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 4th Battalion The Mercian Regiment</i>	260
<b>The Rifles</b>	
<i>of which 6th Battalion The Rifles</i>	380
<i>of which 7th Battalion The Rifles</i>	280
<i>of which 8th Battalion The Rifles</i>	230
<b>Scottish</b>	
<b>The Royal Regiment of Scotland</b>	
<i>of which 52nd Lowland, 6th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	280
<i>of which 51st Highland, 7th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland</i>	290
<b>Irish</b>	
<b>The Royal Irish Regiment</b>	
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment</i>	330
<b>Welsh</b>	
<b>The Royal Welsh</b>	
<i>of which 3rd Battalion The Royal Welsh</i>	350

**Table 3: Trade Trained Gurkha, Infantry by Battalion**

<b>Battalion</b>	<b>Gurkha Strength</b>
<b>Royal Gurkha Rifles</b>	
<i>of which 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles</i>	600
<i>of which 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles</i>	530
<i>of which 3rd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles</i>	50

Table notes:

1. Table 1 figures are for Trade Trained Regulars only.
2. Table 2 figures are for Trained FR20 Personnel only.
3. Table 3 figures are for Trade Trained Gurkha Personnel only.
4. Table 1 and 2 figures are for Infantry only. Table 3 figures are for the Royal Gurkha Rifles only.
5. The Infantry Battalions includes only those members of the Infantry serving at Regimental Duty and excludes any attached arms serving in the Battalion. In the Reserves these figures exclude those in the Battalion Band.
6. The above figures only include those Battalions of the Regiments which are considered English, Scottish, Welsh or Irish. Those who are not associated to a specific country are not included.
7. All Officers of Paid Rank Colonel and above are included in Staff regardless of late Arm/Corps and therefore have been excluded from the figures.
8. 3 RGR was reformed in 2019 and is yet to reach FOC (Full Operating Capacity).
9. Figures have been rounded to 10 for presentational purposes; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
10. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not appear to be the sum of their parts.
11. Data has been provided by Defence Statistics.

Yours sincerely,



**JAMES HEAPPEY MP**