



Ministry  
of Defence

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
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**RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP**  
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND MINISTER  
FOR DEFENCE PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Ref:17181

5 April 2024

Dear Luke,

In response to your Parliamentary Question UIN 17181 you were promised a written answer to the following question:

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many requests for early termination of service have been (a) made, (b) approved and (c) rejected by each of the services in the last five years.

The below tables show the number of Voluntary Outflow Early Termination applications for early termination made by Regular armed forces personnel in the last five calendar years.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Library of the House.

### **Royal Navy**

	<b>Requests for early termination of service</b>			
	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Cancelled</b>	<b>Withdrawn</b>	<b>Total Made</b>
2019	1,102	0	276	<b>1,378</b>
2020	1,044	1	222	<b>1267</b>
2021	1,691	2	150	<b>1843</b>
2022	1,773	2	184	<b>1959</b>
2023	1,683	0	173	<b>1856</b>
2024, as at 28 March	230	0	3	<b>233</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>8,536</b>

Luke Pollard MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

## Army

	<b>Requests for early termination of service</b>			
	Approved	Cancelled	Withdrawn	<b>Total Made</b>
2019	2,677	1	1,280	<b>3,958</b>
2020	2,299	2	801	<b>3,102</b>
2021	3,722	1	222	<b>3,945</b>
2022	4,819	1	442	<b>5,262</b>
2023	4,667	2	535	<b>5,204</b>
2024, as at 28 March	779	0	13	<b>792</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,963</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>22,263</b>

## RAF

	<b>Requests for early termination of service</b>			
	Approved	Cancelled	Withdrawn	<b>Total Made</b>
2019	1,046	0	289	<b>1,335</b>
2020	890	0	188	<b>1,078</b>
2021	1,435	1	88	<b>1,524</b>
2022	2,035	1	156	<b>2,192</b>
2023	1,752	0	147	<b>1,899</b>
2024, as at 28 March	269	0	1	<b>270</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>8,298</b>

Yours sincerely,



**RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP**