

**HOUSE OF LORDS
APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

Room G/40, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ
General Enquiries: 020 7276 6794
Internet: <http://lordsappointments.independent.gov.uk>
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Ref: HOLAC FOI
2021/5

15 March 2021

By email: <REDACTED>

Freedom of Information Act

I am replying to your Freedom of Information request, which the House of Lords Appointments Commission (HOLAC) received on 2nd March 2021.

You asked:

I would like to request the number of applications made to you between the years 2010-2021.

If possible, I would also like a breakdown within each year of age of the applicants, as well as how many applicants were appointed.

On a side note, what is the process after your body decides that someone is eligible for appointment?

The information you have requested is held by the House of Lords Appointments Commission.

The Commission has received 1095 applications between 2010 and 2 March 2021, when your request was received.

I am able to break down applications by age. Figures of five or fewer are not specified. Where a number is very low (less than 5) the information cannot be disclosed as it could potentially identify the individuals involved, especially if combined with other data, and this would constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Therefore, this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the grounds that it is personal information.

2010

21-29: <5

30-39: 7
40-49: 19
50-59: 27
60:69: 43
70+ : 17

2011

21-29: <5
30-39: 9
40-49: 11
50-59: 28
60:69: 42
70+ : 17

2012

21-29: <5
30-39: 7
40-49: 19
50-59: 22
60:69: 25
70+ : 15

2013

21-29: <5
30-39: 7
40-49: 19
50-59: 27
60:69: 43
70+ : 17
Unknown: <5

2014

21-29: <5
30-39: 6
40-49: 14
50-59: 26
60:69: 32
70+ : 15

2015

21-29: <5
30-39: 7
40-49: 14
50-59: 32
60:69: 31
70+ : 10

2016

21-29: 6
30-39: 6

40-49: 14
50-59: 22
60:69: 34
70+ : 15

2017

21-29: 9
30-39: 12
40-49: 7
50-59: 14
60:69: 22
70+ : 20
Unknown: <5

2018

21-29: <5
30-39: 14
40-49: 17
50-59: 15
60:69: 22
70+ : 14

2019

21-29: <5
30-39: <5
40-49: 14
50-59: 32
60:69: 37
70+ : 20

2020

21-29: 7
30-39: 8
40-49: 14
50-59: 24
60:69: 28
70+ : 10
Unknown: <5

2021 (to the date of this request)

21-29: <5
30-39: <5
40-49: <5
50-59: 7
60:69: 10
70+ : <5

In relation to your third and fourth questions, I consider that section 21 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies. Section 21 of the act relates to information already accessible to the applicant by other means. The information you request is

already in the public domain. The number of applicants who were appointed is available on our website at the link below:

- <https://lordsappointments.independent.gov.uk/appointments>

The process for appointment to the House of Lords is also available on Parliament's website at the link below:

- <https://www.parliament.uk/business/lords/whos-in-the-house-of-lords/members-and-their-roles/how-members-are-appointed/>

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may write to the Secretary to the Commission, Alison Bennett, to ask for an internal review by another person. Please note that we will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the process above.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Secretariat to the House of Lords Appointments Commission