

# LEGAL OFFICER CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING OF 11 AUG 09

COMMITTEE DECISION 58/09

**Subject: Policy – Review of Rank on Transfer to LOSOCS**

## The Committee noted:

1. The request by DALs and DAFLs for the Committee to consider the policy on the rank of an applicant seeking transfer to the LOSOCS.

2. That the Outline of the Legal Officers' Specialist Officer Career Structure (LOSOCS) had altered over recent years.

3. That extracts of the policy on the rank of an applicant seeking transfer to the LOSOCS, as reflected in the LOSOCS Outline, were:

a. In 2002: *In most instances, the maximum rank for transfer is CAPT(E), however, in exceptional circumstances the maximum rank may be, in the case of a member of the permanent forces, MAJ(E), and, in the case of a member of the Reserve, LTCOL(E).*

b. In 2005: *In most circumstances the maximum rank upon transfer is the O-3 rank, however, in exceptional circumstances the maximum rank, in the case of an officer in the permanent force, may be the O-4 rank, and, in the case of an officer in the reserve, may be the O-5 rank.*

c. In 2008: *In most circumstances the maximum rank on re-appointment or transfer will be O3 rank. In exceptional circumstances an officer or former officer may be appointed or transferred in the O4 rank.*

4. That the change to policy from 30 May 08 took account of the fact that in 2004 the DFRT had approved the direct appointment of reserve legal officer applicants with specialist skills, such as Judges, Queen's Counsel, Senior Counsel, Professors of Law and criminal law prosecution experts, at legal competency level (CL) 4 and in the O4 or O5 rank and that paragraph 12 of the LOSOCS Outline states, inter alia:

*Where a lawyer seeking a direct entry appointment or transfer as a Legal Officer in the reserve forces has specialised legal experience (such as a Judge, Queens Counsel, Senior Counsel, Professor of Law or criminal law prosecution expert) and is considered suitable for appointment or transfer as a Legal Officer by the LO CPDC and relevant CM, the applicant may be appointed directly at the O4 or O5 rank<sup>1</sup> and granted CL4 status.*

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<sup>1</sup> The O4 rank is either Lieutenant Commander, Major or Squadron Leader and the O5 rank is either Commander, Lieutenant Colonel or Wing Commander.

**The Committee decided to:**

1. **Agree** that the current policy reflected in the LOSOCS Outline dated 30 May 08 was appropriate and should be confirmed.



**V.M. McCONACHIE**  
CDRE RAN  
DGADFLS  
Chair, LO CPDC / CDF Delegate