



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

[REDACTED]  
Defence Equipment & Support  
Policy Secretariat (Submarines)  
Maple 0 #2043  
DE&S Abbey Wood  
Bristol BS34 8JH  
[REDACTED]



Our reference:  
2014/00184  
Your reference:  
[REDACTED]

8 August 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Further to my email of 28 July 2014, I am writing to give you a partial response to your request which has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested:

*'Safety culture workshop at the Submarine Safety Symposium, October 2013 where [REDACTED]; Director Environment, Safety, Health & Quality at AWE gave a presentation. This is mentioned in the AWE Local Liaison Committee minutes (75) of meeting held on 11 December 2013. Please would you supply: Copies of the agenda, all presentations and all output reports/minutes from the symposium.'*

I can advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that eight documents are held by the Ministry of Defence that fall within the scope of your request. Some of this information is being released to you today in the form of two redacted documents.

The redactions fall under the Section 40 absolute exemption, as it is MOD's policy that the names and contact details of officials below the Senior Civil Service (1\* or equivalent), should be withheld under section 40(2) of the FOI Act.

The remaining six documents contain sensitive information. By virtue of section 10(3), public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest in relation to a request. These documents are being considered in relation to the qualified exemptions sections 26 (Defence), section 27 (International Relations) and also the absolute exemption section 40 (Personal Information). Before making redactions or withholding documents, we must consider, in all the circumstances of the case, where the balance of the public interest lies in relation to the information that you have requested. Therefore as this process is not complete, we are not able to release any of these documents at this time.

I will write to you again with an update on the remaining information no later than 8 September 2014.

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, 1st

**Defence Equipment & Support**



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,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.