



Ministry of Defence

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24 July 2014

Further to my email of 22 July, I am now in a position to answer your email of 17 March in which you requested the following information:

"We have been fortunate to get involved with the UXO assessment of the HS2 route.

I wondered if you could assist given this is a special project. We know from a past study that there was a potential abandoned bomb at Lawley Street, Birmingham. Is it possible to get details on this?

Also, what are the chances of getting an assessment for the London to Birmingham route?"

In my email of 22 July I confirmed your request was being treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act and sought clarification on whether you required information relating to Lawley Street, Birmingham only, or the whole of the HS2 route. Your colleague, **[REDACTED]**, confirmed that you sought only information relating to Lawley Street.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is attached. I have redacted all individuals named within the attached documents and any signatures under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act, personal information. This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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. Providing the applicant with all the information requested.

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,
M. 