

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to make a request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act. In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible. If however this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters.

a) How many staff from the Ministry of Defence (both civilian and military) were given approval to join the arms company, Thales, under the business appointments process in a) 2008; b) 2009 and c) 2010?

b) Of those given approval in those years:

- i) how many had dealt with the receipt of tenders from Thales or the award of contracts to Thales (alone or part of a team), while employed by the Ministry of Defence?
- ii) which jobs did those granted approval to join Thales take up with Thales; and what jobs had those people performed while in the Ministry of Defence?

I believe that there is a precedent for publishing this information as the Ministry of Defence disclosed similar information in Parliament when an MP asked two parliamentary questions in relation to another defence firm, BAE, on July 5 and 23 2007. Links to those parliamentary answers are below:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmhansrd/cm070705/text/70705w0004.htm#07070564000985>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmhansrd/cm070723/text/70723w0008.htm#07072411000662>

I understand that under the Act, I should be entitled to a response within 20 working days. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request (I am happy for you to correspond with me on this issue via email [REDACTED] if this is more convenient). I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that you have received this request.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]