



Ministry  
of Defence

[REDACTED]  
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment & ISTAR)

Maple 0a  
#2043  
MOD Abbey Wood  
Bristol BS34 8JH



[REDACTED]  
Via:  
[REDACTED]

Your References:

Our References:  
FOI2015/06386

Date: 7 August 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 requesting the following information:

*Further to my call last week, I would like to request information related to the planned primary radar replacement schedule under the Marshall Programme. The information I specifically require is as follows:*

- *Primary radar replacement date*
- *Estimated time to complete the replacement at each site*
- *Whether the replacement will be an upgrade to the existing radar, a replacement with the Thales Star 2000 or a replacement with the Thales NG radar*
- *Whether the replacement will be an interim or long term installation, i.e. if a Star 2000 is being installed, when/if will it be replaced by a Thales NG*

*The radar sites of specific interest with respect to the above questions are as follows:*

- *Aberporth*
- *RAF Cranwell*
- *RAF Coningsby*
- *RAF Honington*
- *USAF Lakenheath*
- *RAF Linton on Ouse*
- *RAF Lossiemouth*
- *RAF Manorbier*
- *RAF Marham*
- *RAF Shawbury*
- *RAF Spadeadam – Deadwater Fell*
- *RAF Waddington*
- *RAF Wittering*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The table below contains the information you requested concerning the primary radar replacement date, the estimated time to undertake the replacement at each site and whether it is being replaced or upgraded. It is subject to the following caveats:

- a) All of the dates in the table below are subject to change in accordance with the Marshall Contract, but they are correct as of 07/08/15.
- b) RAF Leuchars is undergoing an assessment to determine its inclusion within the Marshall Contract. Until this assessment concludes, the site will continue to be safeguarded.
- c) RAF Leeming shall continue to be safeguarded by the MOD, and therefore remains within the windfarm mitigation requirement.

RAF Site	Planned time of upgrade/replacement	Estimated time to undertake the replacement/upgrade	Refurbishment of the existing Watchman PSR or its replacement with a new PSR
RAF Coningsby	22/09/2019	116 days	New PSR
RAF Cranwell	19/09/2019	116 days	New PSR
RAF Wittering	02/03/2021	121 days	New PSR
RAF Waddington	Decommissioned 12/09/2019	NA	NA
RAF Marham	22/11/2017	116 days	New PSR
RAF Leuchars	There is not a planned time of upgrade or replacement	NA	NA
RAF Lossiemouth	06/04/2020	121 days	New PSR
RAF Spadeadam (Dead Water Fell)	22/09/2016	121 days	New PSR
RAF Spadeadam (Berry Hill)	12/10/2016	121 days	New PSR
RAF Leeming	Decommissioned 17/02/2021	NA	NA
RAF Linton-on-Ouse	24/02/2021	116 days	New PSR
Aberporth	18/10/17	121 Days	New PSR
RAF Honington	Decommissioned 29/09/2016	NA	N/A
USAF Lakenheath	Not in scope	Not in scope	Not in scope
RAF Manorbier	Not in scope	Not in scope	Not in scope
RAF Shawbury	20/01/18	121 days	New PSR

Section 43 (Commercial Interests) is a qualified exemption and subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 43(2) has been applied to some of the information concerning the specific radar type because it contains details which are commercially sensitive due to the innovative nature of the approach taken and would prejudice any future competitive exercise. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that, overall, the public interest is best served in not releasing any details that would prejudice any future competitive exercise by unfairly disadvantaging potential bidders. It is for these reasons I have set the level of prejudice

against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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

DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment & ISTAR)