

**FOI Ref: 0703-17 Digest of Information to be released**

**From: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**To: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**Subject: Transport ideas**  
**Date: 5 July 2017**

**Nissan's autonomous testing track near Yokohama.** Nissan allow you to test the latest level of semi-autonomous cars around their testing track with an instructor beside. Question about whether they'd do this on the Saturday or not.

**From: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**To: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**Cc: Chris Heffer, Director Trade & Investment, Tokyo**  
**Subject: Nissan is a no**  
**Date: 7 July 2017**

Sorry bad news. Nissan ([Redacted]) just got back to me. Unfortunately they cannot accommodate the FS on the Saturday. They've checked the diaries of the key people they would need and they simply aren't available that Saturday. They haven't checked on the Friday yet but if the FS really wanted to go to Nissan and we could free up time on the Friday then happy to speak to them again.

**From: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**To: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**  
**Cc: Chris Heffer, Director Trade & Investment, Tokyo**  
**Subject: Nissan is a no**  
**Date: 7 July 2017**

Thank you both for trying.

**From: Kate White**  
**Sent: 17 July 2017**  
**To: David Ellis, Deputy Head of Mission, British Embassy Tokyo; [Redacted]**  
**Cc: Sarah Hulton, Head of Pacific Department FCO; Paul Madden, HM Ambassador Tokyo**  
**Subject: JAPAN: a few requests from Private Office**

David

Overall, the one theme they still would like to cover more thoroughly would be something on **transport infrastructure**. I'd really welcome it if you could consider further whether anything could be possible to see Nissan on something on these lines.

Kate

Kate White

Director, Asia Pacific

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

**From: [redacted] British Embassy Tokyo**

**Sent: 19 July 2017**

**To: Chris Heffer, Director Trade and Investment, British Embassy Tokyo**

**Subject: Foreign Sec**

Chris

The other suggestion was to ask Nissan to bring an autonomous drive car to the Embassy from Yokohama and I don't think that's a reasonable ask at this notice.

### **EU Exit brief 19 July**

Sentiment has picked up markedly over the past year with a string of positive announcements of new investment from Nissan, Toyota and [Redacted]. Japanese investors employ 140,000 people in the UK.

### **Japan Trade brief 19 July**

Key Companies in UK:

Nissan; Toyota;

#### UK concerns

'However, recent investments by Nissan and [Redacted] are welcome signs that Japanese firms recognise the strength of the UK economy.'

### **Japanese Economy brief 19 July**

'The UK was 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Japanese FDI outflow destination with ¥4.2 trillion (£28.7 billion) investment in 2016. It was especially boosted by investment made after the EU exit by blue chip companies, Toyota, Nissan...'

### **UK Inward Investment Overview brief 19 July**

'While Japanese investors are concerned about the UK's exit from the EU, there have been a number of successful investments since the vote including Nissan's commitment to expand production in Sunderland'

‘Both Nissan and Toyota have made further investment in new models (Juke, Infiniti) and new technologies (battery), against competition from other EU countries.’

‘Japanese motor vehicle manufacturers: Nissan; Toyota; and [redacted] produced nearly 800 000 vehicles in 2014 – more than 50% of the UK total. (SMMT, 2016)’

‘Major single investments were by Nissan (first major investment announcement in the car industry after the EU exit vote – production to increase from 500,000 to 600,000 cars per year),’

### **Trade and Investment brief 19 July**

Japanese motor vehicle manufacturers: Nissan; Toyota; and [redacted] produced nearly **800 000** vehicles in 2014 – more than 50% of the UK total. *SMMT, 2016*

### **Briefing for Breakfast hosted by the British Chamber of Commerce and the British Market Council, Friday 21 July**

#### Background

Nissan committed to building future Qashqai and other models in Sunderland. Toyota made machinery investments in Burnaston ahead of model decisions this year.

#### Speaking Notes

I’m delighted to say that Japan’s investment in the UK has broken all records with over 2,200 individual investments last year alone. In among them, we’ve seen particularly big investments by Nissan, Toyota, [redacted].