



Ministry  
of Defence

██████████  
Defence Equipment and Support  
Secretariat  
Building H9, H Site  
Ministry of Defence  
Ploughley Road  
Lower Arcott  
Bicester OX25 1NZ



Email: DES SEC-PolSec LE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk

████████████████████  
████████████████  
████████████████  
████████████████████  
████████████████  
████████████████████

Our Reference:  
FOI2018/15639  
Date:  
4 February 2019

Dear ██████████,

I wrote to you on 8 January 2019 to inform you that your correspondence dated 06 December 2018 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 and that we would carry out a Public Interest Test in respect of some information falling within scope of two qualified exemptions. You requested the following information:

***“REGARDING THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS MoD AIRCRAFT SINCE DECEMBER 2016***

- 1. What were the aircraft types and military registrations of each aircraft disposed of by either sale or gifting?***
- 2. For each aircraft, was it advertised as being for sale by competitive bid, and was it procured by a preferred purchaser?***
- 3. For each type of aircraft, what was the average price paid, the total of any commissions paid to any agencies, and the total revenue returned to the MOD or Treasury.”***

This letter is to inform you that we have now carried out the Public Interest Test against the following qualified exemptions: Section 43 (Commercial Interests) and Section 27 (International Relations). The information you requested can be found in the table below, although some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemptions provided for at Section 43 (Commercial Interests) and Section 27 (International Relations) in respect of Question 3 and has been withheld.

Sections 43 and 27 are qualified exemptions and are 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 applies as release of price data would provide information that was considered to be commercial-in-confidence and would adversely impact on the ability of the Department to obtain the best value for money for future sales. I have considered it necessary to apply the higher-level

**Defence Equipment & Support**

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

Section 27 applies as release of price data would provide information that was considered to be commercial-in-confidence and would adversely impact on the relations between the Department and the buying State. I have considered it necessary to apply the higher-level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

The aircraft types and military registrations of each aircraft disposed of by either sale or gifting are contained within the table. Gifts were made in line with official MOD Gifting policy in MOD JSP 462. Government-to-Government sales were approved following receipt of a formal request.

#### Aircraft Sales: December 2016 – December 2018

Aircraft Type	Tail Number
Jet Provost T5A	XW418
Harrier GR3	XZ994
Wessex	XS520/ XP137
Meteor	WH132
Wessex HC Mk2	XR528
Hawk TMk1	XX292/ XX226/ XX290/ XX175
Hunter T.8C	WV396
Jet Provost T5A	XW420
Bulldog	XX665
Tornado GR4	ZA549
Meteor F. Mk. 8	VZ568/7261M
Puma HC Mk1	XW208
Chinook HC Mk1	ZA717
Typhoon T3	ZJ800
Hercules C1/C3	XV200/ XV177
Lynx HMA Mk8	ZD566/ XZ722
Lynx AH Mk9A	ZG884/ ZG886/ ZG916
Wessex HU Mk5	XT771/ XT761
Sea King Mk4	ZF116
Lynx AH Mk9A	ZF539/ ZG887/ ZG888/ ZG914
Harrier T8	ZD990
Sea Harrier FA2	ZH807

The aircraft sales were made through a contractor under the marketing agreement held with the Ministry of Defence (MOD). The MOD does not hold details of contractor marketing routes.

#### Government to Government Aircraft Sales: December 2016 – December 2018

Aircraft Type	Tail Number
Sea King Helicopters	ZH544/ ZH545/ ZA295/ ZA296/ ZA299/ ZF117/ ZG821
Hercules Mk5	XH880/ XH886/ XH881/ XH884

#### Aircraft Gifting Cases: December 2016 – December 2018

Aircraft Type	Tail Number
Sea King HAR Mk3	XZ593
Lynx AH Mk7	ZD280
Hawk TMk1	XX308
Jaguar GR1	XX824
Wessex HC Mk2	XR529

#### Defence Equipment & Support

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely



Defence Equipment and Support

**Defence Equipment & Support**

