



Our ref: FOI 2020/07109

Your ref:

Date: 4 August 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 17 June 2020 requesting the following information:

- "What reseller do you prefer to buy your Software through?
- Are there any favoured frameworks you tend to use?
- Who is the decision-maker for IT Purchasing?
- Who is your mobile phone provider?
- What Mobile Device Management Solution are you using and when is the renewal date?
- What Mobile Threat Detection do you have in place for mobile devices and when is the renewal date?
- What Virtual Desktop Software do you have in place for remote workers and when is the renewal date?
- Do you currently use a document security or digital rights management tool and when is the renewal date?
- What are you using for instant messaging?
- Who do you currently use for your Annual IT health checks and when is your next one due?
- What email exchange server are you running? Cloud or on-premise?
- What antivirus software/tool do you use and when is the renewal date?
- Do you have an incident response team within your IT department"?

We are 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 information you have requested can be found in line of your questions, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemptions provided for at 24 National Security, 26 Defence, 31 Law Enforcement and 43 Commercial Interests of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Sections 24, 26, 31 and 43 are qualified exemptions and are subject to the public interest testing which means that the information requested can be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

• What reseller do you prefer to buy your Software through?

Dstl primarily buys software through its IS supplier or through the MOD. Dstl do not have a preferred supplier

• Are there any favoured frameworks you tend to use?

No

• Who is the decision-maker for IT Purchasing?

Dstl procurement is conducted in accordance with EU procurement regulations alongside MOD procurement policy to ensure value for the public purse and suitability to meet the requirement. This activity is managed by an Acquisition Team consisting of technical, commercial and financial stakeholders and as such there is no single 'decision maker' as implied in the question.

• Who is your mobile phone provider?

O2

• What Mobile Device Management Solution are you using and when is the renewal date?

Section 24 (1) has been applied to the information because it contains details which could be used by those with malicious intent against the UK. The balance of the 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 on the type of mobile device management solution used in that it would prejudice the security of the UK and for these reasons we have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

Section 31(1)(a) has been applied as disclosure of any information relating to MOD IT infrastructure would aid a criminal intent on launching a cyber-attack on Departmental IT systems. For these reasons I have set the level of "would", rather than "would likely to".

Additionally, Section 43 (2) has been applied to the information because it has the potential to adversely affect future relationships with and the commercial viability of the partners with which Dstl contracts and weaken its ability to negotiate effectively in procuring similar services in future. Whilst we realise that releasing this information would allow the public to understand who our commercial partners are, the balance of the public interest lies in withholding the information. For these reasons we have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to"

• What Mobile Threat Detection do you have in place for mobile devices and when is the renewal date?

Section 24 (1) as above

Section 31 (1)(a) as above

Section 43(2) as above

• What Virtual Desktop Software do you have in place for remote workers and when is the renewal date?

We do not use Virtual Desktop Software for remote workers.

• Do you currently use a document security or digital rights management tool and when is the renewal date?

We do not use a document security or digital rights management tool.

• **What are you using for instant messaging?**

Cisco Jabber

• **Who do you currently use for your Annual IT health checks and when is your next one due?**

Section 24 (1) as above

Section 26(1) (a) and (b) have been applied because knowledge of when health checks are scheduled could put the defence of our IT at risk. Release of such dates would increase the risk of a successful cyber-attack on MOD, and compromise the defence of the UK.

Section 31 (1)(a) as above

Section 43(2) above

• **What email exchange server are you running? Cloud or on-premise?**

We run Exchange on-premise.

• **What antivirus software/tool do you use and when is the renewal date?**

Section 24 (1) as above

Section 31 (1)(a) as above

Section 43(2) above

• **Do you have an incident response team within your IT department?"**

Yes

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). 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

Dstl Secretariat