



Ministry  
of Defence

## DE&S Secretariat

Defence Equipment & Support  
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Jonathan Mantle

request-320031-  
7f2fae83@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference:  
FOI2016/02847/02878

Date: 31 Mar 2016

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Dear Mr Mantle,

Thank you for your emails of 3/4 March 2016 which requested information about the Cardiff Defence Procurement Research Technology & Exportability (DPRTE) event held in March 2016. Your requests were addressed to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation but, as they relate to a defence procurement event, they were passed to Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) to answer on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MOD). Your enquiries were:

*Please can you tell me which government departments you have been in contact with about this event since 01/01/14.*

*Please could I have a copy of all leaflets and other publicity that will be given to delegates in the Cardiff DPRTE on the 16/03/16.*

I am treating your enquiries as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000, and both are answered in this letter. A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. However, in order to establish definitively whether anyone in the MOD has been in contact with other government departments regarding the DPRTE event, we would need to consult all MOD Project Teams.

Section 12 of the FOI Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, then locating, retrieving and extracting it. It is estimated that identifying, retrieving and extracting information relating to MOD attendance at DPRTE would take a minimum of 40 hours at a cost of around £1,000.

Under Section 16 of the Act (advice and assistance), you should note that the DPRTE event is arranged by BiP Solutions, not the MOD, so you may find it more useful to contact BiP for more information about the event. Its website is here: <https://www.bipsolutions.com/>. I can also advise you that representatives from across the MOD did attend the event, including staff from DE&S. While no MOD corporate material was produced specifically for the event, we have been able to retrieve some information that the Defence Supplier Relations Team gave to attendees at DPRTE. This is listed below. Please let me know if you would like copies of these documents, although you should note that the Defence Contracts Bulletin will need to be sent in the post.

- Defence Suppliers' Service leaflet

**Defence Equipment & Support**

- Small and medium-sized enterprises supplying defence leaflet
- Defence Contracts Bulletin
- Contracting, Purchasing and Financing leaflet

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,

*DE&S Secretariat*