



DSEA Secretariat Group
Defence Safety and Environment Authority (DSEA)
1/K
Main Building
Whitehall
London, SW1A 2HB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

E-mail: DSEA-xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxx.xx

Mr F Dawson
request-114348-7e74cff4@whatdotheyknow.com

Your Reference: 114348-7e74cff4

Our Reference: FOI 24-05-2012-084554-001 &
FOI 23-04-2012-145305-014

Date: 25 June 2012

Dear Mr Dawson

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST: FORMATION OF THE INDEPENDENT
SAFETY ORGANISATION (ISO)**

Thank you for your e-mails dated 24 and 28 May in response to our reply dated 22 May 2012. You have clarified that you would wish to receive the following information

- a: The terms of reference for the MOD Independent Safety Organisation (ISO) referred to in the DESB 2010 report,
- b: letters of delegation
- c: organisational structure
- e: which posts will be subsumed within the ISO.
- f: cost savings
- g: reduction in overall number of posts

- h: responses from the Unions to the consultation on the establishment of the MOD Independent Safety Organisation

Also could you provide me with information about any changes to the MOD Safety committees (DESB, DNESB etc) terms of reference and membership consequent of the establishment for the MOD ISO

We can confirm that we hold some of the information that you have requested and we will answer your questions in turn:

- a: The terms of reference for the MOD Independent Safety Organisation (ISO) referred to in the DESB 2010 report,

The DSEA, in common with all MOD organisations does not have terms of reference. It however, does have a mission statement and this can be found on www.MOD.UK via this link:

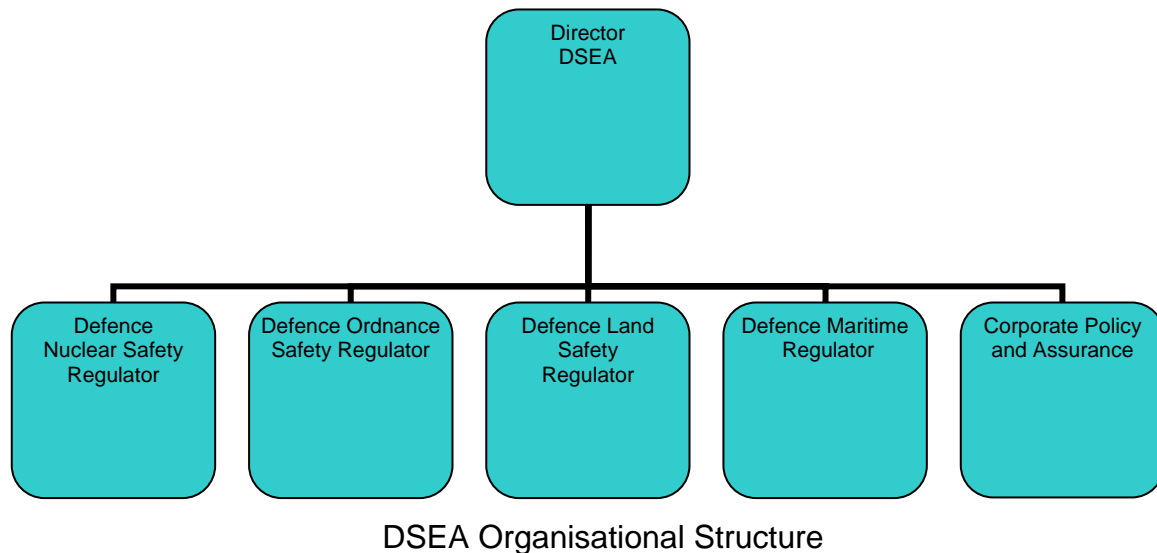
<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/HealthandSafety/DSEA/>

- b: letters of delegation

We attach copies of the letters of delegation for each of the Regulators together with the letter of delegation for Director DSEA.

- Letter of Delegation – 2nd PUS to Director DSEA
- Letter of Delegation – Director DSEA to Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator
- Letter of Delegation – Director DSEA to Defence Ordnance Safety Regulator
- Letter of Delegation – Director DSEA to Defence Land Safety Regulator
- Letter of Delegation – Director DSEA to Defence Maritime Safety Regulator

c: organisational structure



e: which posts will be subsumed within the ISO.

We attach a spreadsheet which details the posts that were subsumed into the DSEA.

f: cost savings

The DSEA was formed as a cost neutral organisation.

g: reduction in overall number of posts

There was no reduction in posts as part of the formation of the DSEA. The DSEA was formed by transferring the staff already in posts from other TLBs. We refer you to our attachment at e. above.

h: responses from the Unions to the consultation on the establishment of the MOD Independent Safety Organisation

We attach a copy of the responses from the MOD Trades Unions on the establishment of the DSEA:

- copy of response from the Ministry of Defence Council of Civil Service Unions
- copy of response from the Defence Police Federation

Also could you provide me with information about any changes to the MOD Safety committees (DESB, DNESB etc) terms of reference and membership consequent of the establishment for the MOD ISO

Your request is very broad and we have interpreted this as to mean all committees with a safety element within the MOD. Our preliminary assessment determined that Section 12 of the Act would apply with regard to this question. Section 12 of the 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 estimates costs of one person spending 3.5 days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

However, as you have explicitly referenced them, we have provided a copy of the Terms of Reference for:

- the Defence Environment and Safety Committee (formerly the DESB)
- the Defence Nuclear Regulator Safety Committee (which has taken on the regulatory aspects of the DNESB)

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 us 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 Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

DSEA Secretariat Group