



**Ships and Submarines Team**  
DE&S Policy Secretariat

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Mr Fred Dawson  
request-127384-be1fe481@whatdotheyknow.com

Our References:  
29-08-2012-102657-001  
25-10-2012-090410-001

Date:  
14 November 2012

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Dear Mr Dawson,

Request for Information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000

I am writing in response to your email of 5 November 2012, in which you say:

*Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.*

*I am writing to request an internal review of Ministry of Defence's handling of my FOI request 'Loss of specialist capabilities needed to support the nuclear propulsion programme'.*

*As you will see from my email dated 23 October I have reason to believe that the information requested does exist and it is on this basis I am requesting an internal review*

*A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address:*

[http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/loss\\_of\\_specialist\\_capabilities](http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/loss_of_specialist_capabilities)

I should first like to apologise for not writing to you sooner to explain the action we were taking as a result of your email of 23 October.

I can confirm that the email above has been passed to the MOD's FOI Internal Review team but, following discussions with them, it is proposed not to carry out an Internal Review at this stage. This is because your email of 23 October was recorded as a new request shortly after it was received, on the basis that it provided specific clarification, which will assist us in locating the information you are seeking. As you are aware, no information was found by the searches we carried out based on your initial request, but the clarification you provided has allowed us to carry out a more focused search.

As a result, we are currently processing your clarified request, with the intention of providing you with a response no later than 20 November. The clarified request has been

assigned reference 25-10-2012-090410-001 as the previous request was formally closed on our systems.

If, after you have received a substantive response, you wish us to proceed with an Internal Review, that option will remain open to you. At this stage, however, it is considered appropriate to continue with the work that has already started on your clarified request, rather than simply reviewing the handling of your original request.

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 Head of Corporate Information, 2nd 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.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

The Ships and Submarines Team