



Ministry  
of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
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Ref: FOI2019/06201 & 06202

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Peter Cook  
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12 August 2019

Dear Peter Cook

Thank you for your emails of 24 May requesting the following information:

*“Could I please request a list of all the Cat C projects included in the graph on page 34 (ISS) of the Defence Equipment Plan 2016.”*

*“Could I please request a list of Cat C projects included in the graph on page 23 (Land Equipment) of Defence Equipment Plan 2016.”*

I am 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 all the information in scope of your request is held. We have retrieved all the relevant Cat C projects as recorded in the data sets held on the department's specific financial system Planning Budgeting and Forecasting (PB&F).

The information we have collated for you in response to the requests can be found at Annex A, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemptions provided for at Sections 24 (National Security) and 26 (Defence) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Sections 24 and 26 are qualified exemptions and 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 24 and 26(1)(b) have been applied to some of the information because it would not be in the interest of the UK's national security (including defence interests) to provide information on sensitive project names; providing this information may enable adversaries to deduce the nature and scope of sensitive projects allowing increased understanding of defence capabilities and reducing the operational benefits of these projects. The likelihood of this occurring in any instance is markedly increased given the breadth of requests across multiple years. For these reasons, I have set the level of "would", rather than "would likely to".

In favour of release is the presumption towards disclosure under the FOIA as answering this question would increase transparency of sensitive projects.

On balance, I consider the public interest favours maintaining the exemptions and withholding the information you have requested in a few instances.

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 at the address above. 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, Ground 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 normally 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,

Defence Resources Secretariat

## ANNEX A

16/17 Cat C Land
<b>Equipment Procurement Planning</b>
Combat Water Supply System
CUTLASS
Joint Op Fuel Sys 3
Multi-role Protected Vehicle
Protected Battlefield Ambulance
Tactical Hearing Protection System
TILEWORKS
<b>Equipment Support Plan</b>
AMPHORA
CUTLASS
Defence Mechanical Handling Equipment
Gasket

16/17 Cat C ISS
<b>Equipment Procurement Planning</b>
FUTURE CYBER OPERATE + DEFEND
IMAGERY EXPLOITATION
JANUS Electronic Warfare Ops Spt
JMNIAN 2
Joint Common Remote Viewing Terminal
JOINT NETWORK INTEGRATION BODY
SEMAPHORE-R
SHEPHERD STAGE 1 - DEWDB REPLACEMENT
<b>Equipment Support Plan</b>
C2I2 OPERATIONAL ESB HOSTING ENVIRONMENT
DCA K2BBC
HOUSEKEEPER
INTERMOLAR
JANUS Electronic Warfare Ops Spt
Joint Common Remote Viewing Terminal
LSRC
MESSAGING
RNCSS
SafeGuarding Concept
SEMAPHORE
SEMAPHORE-R
SKYSIREN
WATCHTOWER