## **DE&S Secretariat**





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**Edward Stanley** 

request-404779-1dc792d5@whatdotheyknow.com

20-Jul-17 Our Reference: FOI2017/05262

Dear Mr Stanley,

Thank you for your enquiry of 4 May 2017 which requested the following information:

Please could you inform me of all of the contracts held between your department and Babcock (and its subsidiaries) from January 2015 until now, including the length and value of each contract.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in response.

I am treating your enquiry as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. Enclosed is a list of MOD contracts awarded to Babcock and its subsidiaries between 1 January 2015 and 4 May 2017.

Some of the information in the list falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemption provided for at Section 26 (Defence) and has therefore been withheld. Section 26 (1) (b) has been applied to eight contract titles as disclosure would reveal sensitive information about the capability of the Armed Forces. The balance of public interest concluded that release of this information would not significantly improve understanding of MOD business with Babcock, and that there is a stronger public interest in not releasing any details that would prejudice the capability of our Armed Forces or give a tactical advantage to our enemies. I have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information as 'would be likely to'.

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). 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, <a href="http://www.ico.org.uk">http://www.ico.org.uk</a>.

Yours sincerely, **DE&S Secretariat**