



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
F3, Building 405
Corsham
Wiltshire
SN13 9NR
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2022/04511

E-mail: [UKStratComDD-
SecretariatGpMbx@mod.gov.uk](mailto:UKStratComDD-SecretariatGpMbx@mod.gov.uk)

Mr Max Colbert
[request-851785-
00988b15@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-851785-00988b15@whatdotheyknow.com)

5 May 2022

Dear Mr Colbert,

Thank you for your email of 6 April 2022 requesting the following information:

"I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to ask that you please disclose to me the user services agreements and copies of the contracts between yourselves and the company dataminr.

If the contracts are not available, I would like a summary of the work undertaken by dataminr.

I would like to know if dataminr is utilising the twitter firehose as part of it's service with you, and if a DPIA was completed for the work undertaken.

I'd also like to know, as I'm aware of how the software operates, which news events have been tracked using the software. This does not need to be an extensive explanation that would endanger operations, but rather to satisfy the clear public interest in this matter. Namely, if protests have been targeted. BLM, XR, Insulate Britain (or other environmental activists), "antifa", anti police violence, or anti arms protests specifically.

I'd also like to know if any further agreements not published on contracts finder exist between the ministry of defence and dataminr please, or if the 2 contracts listed on contracts finder represent use across the Ministry.

Please list any and all exemptions and full reasoning for applying them, should ny apply, and please respond as promptly as possible, or at the very least withing the 20 day legal timeframe as laid out in the FOI Act."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

This letter is to inform you that the Ministry of Defence holds information related to your request, but that we believe the information falls within the scope of the following qualified exemptions: Section 24 (National Security) and Section 43 (Commercial Interests). As such, it is necessary for us to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The FOIA requires us to respond to requests promptly, and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information

and the public interest test has to be conducted, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days. A full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case and, in relation to your request, we estimate that it will take an additional 20 working days to take a final decision on where the balance of public interest lies. We therefore plan to let you have a response by 6 June 2022. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion we will let you know.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly 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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Digital Secretariat