Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

Aston University
Birmingham B4 7ET
United Kingdom

+44 (0)121 204 3000
aston.ac.uk

Ms M Sullivan
millie@ded1.co

28 October 2022
Our Ref: FOI/2223/031

Dear Ms Sullivan

Your Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email, which was received by the University on 5 September 2022. The University's response is set out in the enclosed document.

Your right to seek a review

Should you be dissatisfied with the way in which the University has dealt with your request, you have the right to require us to review our actions and decisions. If you wish to request a review, please contact the General Counsel, Aston University, Birmingham, B4 7ET or e-mail: foi_requests@aston.ac.uk within 40 working days. Your request must be in a recordable format (letter, email, audio tape, etc). You will receive a full response to your request for review within 20 working days of its receipt.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which we have handled your request for review you may ask the Information Commissioner to review our decision. You must submit your complaint in writing to the Commissioner within 6 months of receiving the response to review letter. The Commissioner may be contacted at:

Address: Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 / 01625 545 745 (+44 1625 545 745 if calling from overseas)
Fax: 01625 524 510

E-mail: notification@ico.gsi.gov.uk
Website http://www.ico.gov.uk/

Yours sincerely

Lote Puske

Lote Puske
Paralegal

Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

Your request	Our response
In the below request, the phrase 'arms trade companies' relates to, but not limited to: Mitsubishi General Electric Babcock BAE Systems, Rolls Royce Boeing Lockheed Martin Corp. Leonardo Thales Airbus GKN Smiths Group Cobham VT Group General Dynamics General Electric Halliburton, L3 Harries Technologies and Communications, Northrup Grumman Raytheon. Could you please provide: 1) The total amount, in pounds sterling, that the university has received in research funding from arms trade companies in the last five financial years. Details should be broken down for each company, year-by-year for the last five financial years. 2) The total amount, in pounds sterling, that the university has received in the form of industrial consultancy and industrial research fees from arms trade companies in the last five financial years. Details should be broken down for each company, year-by-year for the last five financial years.	For questions 1 - 4 please refer to the attached document. The University's Ethical Investment Policy (https://www.aston.ac.uk/sites/default/files/Ethical-Investment-Policy.pdf) prohibits us investing directly in arms companies, which we define as the production of landmines, cluster bombs, nuclear and conventional weapons.

Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

3) The total amount, in pounds sterling, that the university has received in research funding from the Ministry of Defence over the last five financial years. Details should be broken down, year-by-year for the last five financial years. 4) The total amount, in pounds sterling, that the university has received in the form of industrial consultancy and industrial research fees from the Ministry of Defence over the last five financial years. Details should be broken down, year-by-year for the last five financial years.	
5) A portfolio statement for the fund(s) the university has investments in. If you do not have a copy of this, please send me a list of the names of the fund(s) and the corresponding management companies. Details should be broken down, year-by-year for the last five financial years.	For 2017/18 to 2020/21 we held funds with: • Hermes Property Management Fund • COIF Managed by CCLA. Additionally, from 2017/18 to 2019/20 we held: • Charibond and Charifund managed by M&G.
6) Please also confirm if any shares are held in the above companies as part of a pension fund or endowment, either directly or indirectly through an externally managed fund. Details should be broken down, year-by-year for the last five financial years.	Please refer to the responses above.