Ref No: FOI 5539
Date: 03/08/23
Subject: Academic Partnerships Policy

REQUEST

To whom it may concern,

In the below request the phrase the phrase ‘arms trade companies’ relates to, but not limited to:

a company that is involved in any capacity in manufacturing (parts or complete), production, sales or exports of weapon systems (including small and light weapons, heavy and conventional weapons, and nuclear weapons) in one or more sectors (including dual-use purpose companies).

‘Academic partnership policy or statement’ refers to any commitment by the university to exclude arms trade companies from any of the following:

• Graduate schemes/apprenticeships/Careers fair appearances

• Directly sponsored PhDs or Studentships

• Public donations - sponsored buildings/libraries etc

• Company involvement in university departments - i.e. MoD Laboratories, EPSRC centres for doctoral research, or any consultancy role

• Dual employment of staff/management or lecturers - staff/management or lecturer employees who are also currently employed by an arms trade company

Please may I request any relevant policy or statement within the last five years. Please can these be broken down by year and categorised accordingly:

• Year of policy/statement release

• Name of senior management or council or committee that wrote or signed off the statement

• Name of the council or committee that oversees academic partnerships in any of the aforementioned capacities.

Clarification Issued

The University does not have a means by which to classify companies as ‘arms trade companies’ within its systems and therefore it would require a subjective assessment to categorise companies

the University has such policies relating to for the purposes of this request. In addition to this subjective assessment, we would also be required to manually search through any records and identify such companies in the absence of being able to categorise them. Furthermore, the breadth of the information you are requesting would require this manual search to be conducted across several departments within the University. As such, it is likely that to provide you with the information you have requested will exceed the appropriate cost limit as specified within section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. In order to allow us to provide you with information, we would suggest that you provide a defined list of companies you define as 'arms trade companies' and narrow the parameters of the information you are requesting, such as requesting one type of agreement or reducing the number of years for which you are requesting information.

Clarification Received

To whom it may concern, Thank you for your response and advice. To limit the scope of search, please see the list of arms companies by name. Also please limit the years of search from 5 years to 2 years. 1.BAE systems 2. Babcock 3. QinetiQ 4. Rolls-Royce 5. Serco 6. Cobham 7. Raytheon 8. Airbus 9. General Dynamics 10. Leonardo MW 11. Lockheed Martin 12. Thales 13. MBDA 14. Elbit Systems 15. Caterpillar 16. MOD 17. DSTL 18. Atomic Weapons establishment 19. GKN 20. Boeing

RESPONSE

The University holds no such policies or statements.

Your request i.d. is: 5539. Please quote this in all enquiries.

The University aims to comply fully with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and to ensure that the service it provides for those wishing to gain access to information is helpful and effective.

The personal information you have supplied will be used only to process your request; some details will be retained for our records after the request has been answered. This information will not be passed on to other parties unrelated to the University unless we are required to do so by law, or where it would be necessary to answer the request in full (in which case we would seek your consent for any transfer).

Process for Making a Complaint

If you feel the service you have received does not meet our aims or your expectations, you are entitled to request that the University undertakes an internal review of the way we have responded to this request. Requesters should make requests for an internal review no later than 40 working days after the date of this document. The University is not obliged to accept internal reviews after this point.

To request an internal review, please write to:

Head of Governance Services
University House
Lancaster University
Bailrigg
Lancaster
LA1 4YW

Email: information-governance@lancaster.ac.uk

If, following our internal review, you are dissatisfied with the response provided, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, for details visit www.ico.org.uk.