Freedom of Information Request to Teesside University

Our reference:	FOI 23197
Request received:	18 October 2023
Response sent:	25 January 2024

Dear requestor

Further to its recent acknowledgement, the University is now in a position to provide you with a response to your request for information.

We have dealt with your request in accordance with your “right to know” under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (subsequently referred to as FOIA 2000) which entitles you to be provided with information “held” by a public authority, unless an appropriate exemption applies.

Please find below the University’s response to your request.

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

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

In the below request, the phrase ‘research project' related to, but not limited to:

Any academic research collaborations that involve any staff members or any member of the active student body with companies or institutions who have stakes in the defence industry and arms trade companies.

Could you please provide me with all research projects with any connection to arms trade companies in the last five years. Connections can include sources of funding and/or collaborative research partnership on the research project.

Please can these be broken down by financial year, and categorise them accordingly:

1. Title and aim of research project
2. Players (list of companies involved in the research project)
3. Name of university department(s) involved (if applicable)
4. Source of funding for the research project (to be included the source of funding does not have to be an arms trade company)
5. The total amount, in pounds sterling, that the university has received in research funding for this project in the last five financial years. Details should be broken down for this project year-by-year.
6. Timescale of research project - start and end (exact day/month if applicable/available, otherwise by financial years)

Response

From the list provided, the University has contracts with the below companies:

DSTL

1. Title: Quantified Information Flow Control in Cloud Computing Systems.
2. No companies involved
3. School of Engineering, Computing and Digital Technologies
4. DSTL is the source of funding
5. TU funding 2023/24 £18,182, 2022/23 £62,407
6. 31/08/2022 to 29/09/2023

BAE Systems via a subcontract with University of Portsmouth (funding from MOD)

1. Title: Biomarkers of early non-freezing cold injury from blood samples in military personnel
2. Our subcontract was only with Uni of Portsmouth
3. National Horizons Centre
4. Our subcontracting agreement lists BAE Systems as the funder but Portsmouth's agreements with BAE Systems state that the funder is the MOD
5. TU funding £10,635 in 2021/22
6. 01/01/2022 – 31/03/2022

DSTL via University of Portsmouth

1. Title: Identification of novel biomarkers of the heat acclimated phenotype
2. University of Liverpool
3. National Horizons Centre
4. DSTL is the source of funding via University of Portsmouth
5. TU funding £21,000 in 2022/23
6. 03/12/2021-01/10/2024

Following consultation with DSTL, we wish to point out that DSTL are an executive agency of the Ministry of Defence (UK Government Department) rather than an "arms trade company".

Please note that, the University's response is limited to contracts with the companies you have listed, on the basis that the wording 'arms trade companies' could include lots of different types of organisations that contribute to the development of arms trade and the University does not hold recorded information on the detail of their involvement.

This concludes the University's response to your request. Should you feel dissatisfied with this response or the way in which your request was handled you can request an Internal Review. This should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this response. Please provide the reference number of your request, information on why you are dissatisfied and any detail you would like us to consider as part of the Internal Review process.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of your complaint, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for consideration. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the following address: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Detailed information about the University's process in relation to Appeals and Complaints can be found here.

Kind regards
Information Governance Team