Freedom of Information Request to Teesside University

Our reference:	FOI 24026
Request received:	2 February 2024
Response sent:	19 April 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.

Request

In the below request the phrase 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

'Academic partnership' refers to 'arms trade companies' involvement of any of the following:
• Graduate schemes/apprenticeships/Careers fair appearances
•Directly sponsored PhDs or Studentships
• Company involvement in university departments - i.e. MoD Laboratories, EPSRC centres for doctoral research.
• Any consultancy role.

Please may I request any relevant information or appearance of arms trade companies in the aforementioned capacities in the past five years:

- May this be broken down by financial year, with the start/end date where applicable
- The name of the arms company involved
- The financial value of the relationship
- The name of the relevant university department

Response
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.

1. QinetiQ – a student placement with School of Science, Engineering & Digital Technologies (formerly School of Science, Engineering & Design (SSED)) from 10 September 2018 to 2 September 2019.
2. Rolls Royce – an academic partnership internship with School of Science, Engineering & Digital Technologies (SCEDT) from 1 February 2021 to 21 May 2021.

3. Rolls Royce - a student placement with School of Science, Engineering & Digital Technologies (formerly School of Science, Engineering & Design (SSED)) from 1 August 2018 to 1 August 2019.
4. Serco – Electrical/Electronic Technical Support Engineer Degree Apprenticeship with School of Science, Engineering & Digital Technologies (SCEDT) in 2022 (exact dates not held).
5. Caterpillar - HND Mechanical Engineering Apprenticeship with School of Science, Engineering & Digital Technologies (formerly School of Science, Engineering & Design (SSED)) from 2 April 2018 to 1 April 2020.

The University has been unable to trace the financial values relating to 1-5.

In respect of careers fairs, the University holds the following information:

Careers Fair Appearances by Academic Year					
	2019/ 2020	**2020/ 2021**	**2021/ 2022**	**2022/ 2023**	**2023/ 2024**
Ministry of Defence - **Royal Air Force**	1	0	1	0	0
Ministry of Defence - **Royal Navy and Royal Marines**	1	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Defence - **British Army**	0	0	1	2	1

Please note that:
*2021/2022 Careers Fairs were hosted virtually owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The University does not charge organisations to participate in Careers Fairs therefore there is no financial value to be declared for this activity.

The following list identifies 'arms trade companies' who have registered with our 'Vacancies Board' solution (Target Connect). Registration enables organisations to promote their opportunities to TU students and graduates. i.e. internships and graduate vacancies. This is not a costed service therefore there is no financial value to declared for this activity.

Organisation	Registered with TU Target Connect Platform
BAE Systems	Yes
Babcock International Group	Yes
Rolls-Royce	Yes
Serco	Yes
Airbus	Yes
Leonardo MW	Yes
Lockheed Martin	Yes
Thales	Yes
MBDA	Yes
Caterpillar	Yes
MoD Defence	Yes
DSTL	Yes

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