Nottingham Trent University

Reply to request for information under Freedom of Information Act 2000	
Name of Requester	Ms Millie Sullivan
Contact Details	millie@ded1.co
Date received	21 February 2024
Deadline for Response	20 March 2024

Information requested	*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*

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	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:* *- Title and aim of research project* *- Players (list of companies involved in the research project)* *- Name of university department(s) involved (if applicable)* *- Source of funding for the research project (to be included the source of funding does not have to be an arms trade company)* *- 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.* *- Timescale of research project - start and end (exact day/month if applicable/available, otherwise by financial years)*

NTU confirms that it holds:	**all** of the information requested	√
	part of the information requested	
	none of the information requested	
NTU neither confirms nor denies that it holds the information requested		

NTU is able to supply **all** of the information requested. The information (or links to the information if it is already published) set out below	
NTU is able to supply **part** of the information requested. The information (or links to the information if it is already published) set out below, together with the reason for the partial response.	
NTU is unable to supply any of the information requested. Reasons as set out below.	√

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Nottingham Trent University Response:

Further to your email dated 21 February 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the University has considered your request. In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this response also acts as a Refusal Notice in response to your request.

The University is unable to provide a breakdown of all research projects with any connection to the arms trade or the companies listed in your request within the Fees Limit (Section 12). The information you have requested is not stored in a central and easily retrievable location. To collate the information requested the University would need to undertake a manual review of all research projects carried out during the period specified in the request. The University would then need to identify whether there are any connections to the arms trade, which would require a comprehensive review of each project. If deemed to fall into the scope of the request the University would have to manually collate the information requested in relation to funding source, funding amount broken down by year, project title, University departments involved and timescale of the project. This would involve reaching out to multiple University departments to retrieve this information. Given the information has been requested over a five-year period and the number of research projects which have taken place in this time, this would take a significant amount of time. Therefore, provision of the information would take the University over the Fees Limit. Please see **Refusal Notice** below.

Refusal Notice – Fees Limit (Section 12)
Under the Freedom of Information Act ("the Act"), Section 12, the University is not under a duty to comply with a request where it estimates that the cost of doing so would exceed the limit of £450, calculated in accordance with the Regulations made under the Freedom of Information Act at £25 per person per hour for a total of 18 hours (The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. In estimating whether the cost of complying with any request exceeds the limit of £450, the University is entitled to consider the costs it reasonably expects to incur in the information retrieval process e.g. locating the information (or a document containing it), retrieving the information (or a document containing it) and extracting the information from a document containing it. For the reasons set out above, the University has estimated that complying with your request would exceed the prescribed limit and is, therefore, under no obligation to disclose any of the requested information.

If you feel that the University has misunderstood your request in any way or you are dissatisfied with the response to your request, you can request an internal review by contacting foi.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk within 40 working days of the date of this response. Further information on the University's internal review procedure under Freedom of Information can be found at https://www.ntu.ac.uk/about-us/governance/freedom-of-information.

You also have the right, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to apply to the Information Commission for a decision as to whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of Part 1 of the Act. The Commissioner will, however, normally require you to pursue an internal appeal to the University prior to considering such an application. You can find further information about the Act from the Information Commissioner at https://ico.org.uk/.

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Please quote the reference number 1581837 in any future communications.

Kind regards,

Abigail Fielding
Governance and Legal Services

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