12 June 2012

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: ICO DECISION NOTICE FS 50385218

As you will be aware, in his Decision Notice (DN) dated 8 May 2012, the Information Commissioner (IC) found that the majority of the withheld information was in fact exempt from disclosure on the basis of either Section 24 (National Security) or Section 27 (International Relations). The exceptions to this are small parts of the Defence Nuclear Executive Board Risk Register which have only been withheld on the basis of Section 43 (Commercial Interests) or Section 28 UK Internal Relations. The IC therefore required MOD to disclose this information in compliance with his DN.

The Department accepts the IC's decision. The information released in compliance with FS5038521 is as follows (i.e. the text in bold text in the following statement):

CAUSE box for risk EC7

Loss of Crown Immunity requires full compliance with planning legislation for renewal on supporting infrastructure.

SNP have suggested that they will exploit environmental legislation against basing Trident in Scotland.

Potential threat to continued deterrent operations and support from Faslane/Coulport.
MITIGATION box for risk EC7

1. Early awareness of potential problems and timelines for planning permission process.

2. Engagement of Scottish legal expertise to advise on issues and strategy.

3. Ensure continued ministerial and cross-Whitehall engagement on the political issue.

CAUSE box for risk DP1

Erosion of manufacturing capability, cost growth, time delay and poor performance of contractors due to the timeliness of approvals not generating appropriate consistency of orders, confidence in commitment of the MOD or commercial incentives.

I am copying this letter to Jonathan Slee, Senior Case Officer, Information Commissioner's Office.

Yours ever,

[Signature]