



Ref: FOI2022-008

[REDACTED]

5th April 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to our email of 14th March 2022 regarding your request for the following information:

We are submitting this Freedom of Information request to your Organisation in order to obtain information regarding whether you have any current insurances in force. Please could you therefore respond to the following: -

- 1. Please confirm the name, position and contact details (telephone number and email address) of the person responsible for arranging and administering the Authority's insurances.*
- 2. Which classes of commercial insurance do the Authority currently procure? When are these policies due for renewal?*
- 3. How much does the Authority spend annually on its insurance premium?*
- 4. Please confirm the name of the Authority's current insurance broker/advisor (if applicable).*
- 5. When was the contract for insurance broking services last reviewed/tendered?*
- 6. When will the current contract for insurance brokerage services expire? Is this subject to a potential extension?*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

We can confirm that the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) holds some information in scope of your request.

We will address each of your questions in turn:

- 1. Please confirm the name, position and contact details (telephone number and email address) of the person responsible for arranging and administering the Authority's insurances.**

We have considered your request and have decided that the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act. The Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) are obliged to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR and as such are prohibited from disclosing personal data to third parties where doing so would breach the data protection principles set out in the UK GDPR. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and as such does not require a Public Interest Test to be carried out.



2. Which classes of commercial insurance do the Authority currently procure? When are these policies due for renewal?

Insurance class	Renewal date
Employers' Liability	August 2022
Motor Fleet (UK & Overseas)	August 2022
Personal Accident and Business Travel	August 2022
Directors and Officers	August 2022
Professional Indemnity	August 2023
Property Damage	August 2023
Public Liability Insurance	March 2023
Aviation Public Liability Insurance	March 2023

3. How much does the Authority spend annually on its insurance premium?

We can confirm that the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) holds this information, however we are withholding the information under section 43(2) of the FOI Act. This section provides that information can be withheld where disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and so is subject to the Public Interest Test (PIT). The PIT has been conducted and has fallen in favour of applying the exemption and as such withholding the information in full.

AWE recognise that the FOI Act contains a presumption in favour of disclosure, and emphasis is placed upon promoting openness and transparency. Correspondingly, there is some public interest in AWE's commercial interests being made available and to be accountable under public spending scrutiny.

However, the information requested is proprietary information which is held on behalf of both Crown Commercial Services (CCS), who are the broker approved by Government to provide the best contracts, and the Ministry of Defence. There is a strong public interest in safeguarding the information contained within existing contracts that were negotiated prior to 1st July 2021, the date on which AWE transitioned into a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB), as these companies and personnel have an expectation of confidentiality. Both CCS and MOD were consulted during the processing of this request.

Also, there are a limited number of suppliers in this particular market which strengthens the argument that disclosure would be likely to prejudice both AWE's and the broker's commercial interests.

While recognising the public interest in disclosing information about insurance contracts, there is a stronger public interest in this case in withholding the information in full.



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4. Please confirm the name of the Authority's current insurance broker/advisor (if applicable).

Brokerage is provided under Crown Commercial Services Agreement RM6020

5. When was the contract for insurance broking services last reviewed/tendered?

Brokerage is provided under Crown Commercial Services Agreement RM6020

6. When will the current contract for insurance brokerage services expire? Is this subject to a potential extension?

Brokerage is provided under Crown Commercial Services Agreement RM6020

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to information.requests@awe.co.uk or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team