



UNIVERSITY  
of HULL

**Request Reference: 3463**

FOI Request dated 21/07/2025 –

*In the below request, the phrase 'arms trade companies' relates to any company on the SIPRI Top 100 arms-producing companies and Defence News Top 100 lists.*

*This includes, and if necessary, to fit within the time/cost limitations, can be limited to:*

1. *BAE Systems*
2. *Babcock*
3. *QinetiQ*
4. *Rolls-Royce*
5. *Serco*
6. *Cobham*
7. *Raytheon (RTX)*
8. *Airbus*
9. *General Dynamics*
10. *Leonardo MW*
11. *Lockheed Martin*
12. *Thales*
13. *MBDA*
14. *Elbit Systems*
15. *Northrop Grumman*
16. *L3 Harris Technologies*
17. *General Electric*
18. *AVIC*
19. *GKN Aerospace*
20. *Boeing*
21. *Ministry of Defence (MoD)*
22. *Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl)*
23. *Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE)*

*'Academic partnerships' refers to arms company involvement (funder or partner) in any of the following:*

- *Apprenticeships and graduate schemes*
- *Job advertisements and career fair appearances*
- *Sponsorships (events, workshops, trainings)*
- *Studentships, sponsored PhDs, scholarships and professorships*
- *Department funding and relationships (e.g. knowledge transfer relationships)*
- *Consultancy and executive roles*

*Can the university please provide any relevant information or evidence of arms companies' involvement in any of the capacities mentioned above over the past eight years?*

Please may this be broken down by:

- *Academic year and with the start/end date (DD-MM-YY) where applicable*
- *The name of the arms company involved and the nature of the partnership (partnership, collaboration, consultancy, funding)*
- *The financial value of the relationship in pounds sterling*
- *The name(s) of the academic department(s) involved*
- *The name and description of the degree and/or research being conducted in the studentship*

*\*Notes to FOI Officer:*

*The timeframe for this request should cover 1 January 2023 to 5 April 2025, or the University's reporting period (1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025), up to the most recent completed year.*

## **Response**

The University has over 2000 employees across various departments, the information requested is not centrally held therefore would require a high number of employees to search/retrieve information relevant to the 20 companies listed over a 2-year period. We have calculated if each member of staff spent 5 minutes to establish if held and retrieve the relevant information, this would take approximately 166 hours, which exceeds the 18-hour limit. Therefore, S12 of the Act applies.

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. s1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit' (18 – hours).

Activities that may be counted within our time estimations are:

- Determining if the information is held;
- 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.

The following have not been included within our calculations:

- The time spent identifying information to be exempted
- The time dedicated to the process of redaction.

Please take this as a refusal notice in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act which states; A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is relying on a claim that section 12 or 14 applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact.

Although excess cost removes the University's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

### **1. BAE systems**

- *Attended Autumn Careers Fair 2023 costing £420*
- *Attended Autumn Careers Fair 2024 costing £420*
- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

- *Have attended a Business School Speed Networking event 2025*
- *Attended Engineering alumni careers event 2025*
- *Representatives have taken part on our Career Mentoring Programme*
- *Student on placement with them 2024/2025*

2. Babcock

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

3. QinetiQ

- *Attended a Careers Fair in the past*

4. Rolls-Royce

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

5. Serco

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*

6. Cobham

- *N/A*

7. Raytheon (RTX)

- *N/A*

8. Airbus

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*
- *Attended Engineering alumni careers event 2025*
- *Student on placement with them 2023/24 academic year*

9. General Dynamics

- *N/A*

10. Leonardo M/W

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*
- *Attended STEM Careers Fair 2023 at a cost of £100*
- *Attended White Rose Industrial Physics Academy (WRIPA) Careers Fair 2023 hosted at the University of Hull*

11. Lockheed Martin

- *N/A*

12. Thales

- *NA*

13. MBDA

- *Attended White Rose Industrial Physics Academy (WRIPA) Careers Fair 2023 hosted at the University of Hull*

14. Elbit Systems

- *N/A*

15. Northrop Grumman

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

16. LS Harris Technologies

- *N/A*

17. General Electric

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

18. AVIC

- *N/A*

19. GKN Aerospace

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

20. Boeing

- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

21. MOD

- *Army, RAF and Navy are all approved employers on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships).*
- *Army attended STEM Careers Fair 2023 at a cost of £100*
- *Army attended Autumn Careers Fair 2023 at a cost of £100*
- *RAF attended Autumn Careers Fair 2023 at a cost of £100*
- *Army, RAF and Navy attended Health Professions Fair 2023 at no cost*
- *Army attended Part-time jobs Fairs 2023 & 2024 at no cost*
- *MOD Air & Space Warfare Unit – attended Computer Science Industry Week in May 2023 to promote placement opportunities and a background to the work they are involved in to Level 4 Computer Science students*
- *The Army have also delivered presentations and hosted Drop In sessions and Pop Up events*
- *Army attended Sports Science Thesis Conference*

22. DSTL

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*

- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*

### 23. Automatic Weapons Establishment (AWE)

- *Approved employer on our careers platform (Handshake)*
- *Have advertised opportunities on our career platform to students (e.g. graduate jobs, placements, summer internships)*
- *Attended White Rose Industrial Physics Academy (WRIPA) Careers Fair 2023 hosted at the University of Hull*