Dear [Name],

Thank you for your e-mail to Barbara Hook on the 24th April 2013 in which you requested:

"Please could I have a copy of the submission to Ministers of 24 October, which is mentioned in the letter as the time by which a decision to publish the invitation list was confirmed."

Please find attached a copy of the submission as requested.

The following exemptions have been used.

Section 27 sub section (1) (a)(c) of the Act exempts information if its disclosure under this act would, or would be likely to, prejudice relations between the UK and any other state or the interest of UK abroad. It is a qualified exemption and we have considered the public interest test arguments.

We acknowledge there is a public interest in the Department providing transparency about its engagement with Overseas Governments and the release of this information would increase public knowledge of the UK's diplomatic relations. However, against this it can be argued that the effective conduct of international relationships depends upon maintaining trust and confidence of Governments of other nations.

The list of countries cleared for invitation is greater than those actually invited as it allows the department to plan for the event and to make the best use of resources should any country decline our invitation. Disclosure of a list which includes countries cleared but who never received an invitation would prejudice diplomatic relationships with those countries. Furthermore, it risks damaging future relations with other nations and the UKs interests abroad. It is for these reasons that we have determined that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure. A list of countries that received an invite has been published.

Section 35 (Formulation of Government Policy)
Section 35(1)(a) exempts information from disclosure if it affects the formulation of government policy. There is a public interest in favour of disclosure so that the public can understand the interaction between departments and Ministers and disclosure of this information would bring greater transparency to the policy making process. However, we consider that in this case this transparency also poses a risk to the protection of the decision-making process which needs to be based on a broad assessment and discussion of options. The decisions and discussions around the decisions as to whether or not to invite any country to Security and Policing exhibition form a part of the policy for that particular country. As such ministers and officials need to be able to have
free and frank discussions about the issues and information surrounding the issues. We therefore judge that disclosure would not be in the public interest.

Section 40 (Personal information). Section 40(2) provides an absolute exemption for personal data which then falls to be dealt under the Data Protection Act. Personal data of third parties can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. In particular, the first data protection principle requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful and must comply with one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act. Many of the additional attendees are of junior rank (such as personal assistants), and are merely attending in support of the invited delegate. We do not think that it is fair to release the names of these individuals and do not think that any of the relevant conditions apply.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Security & Information Rights Unit (FOI.Requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk).

Security & Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wimslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Signed

UKTI Defence & Security Organisation
Policy & Resources Secretariat
To: Lord Green

From: [Redacted]

Date: 24th Oct 2012

Subject: Security and Policing 2013 - Invitation for Official Overseas Delegations

Purpose:
Use no more than two or three sentences to explain what the submission is for and why the Minister is seeing it.

Recommendation:
That the Minister:

(a) Notes the approved list of countries (Annex A) that may be invited to send official delegates to S&P13 or receive official liaison where resources allow.

(b) Notes that FCO Minister Alistair Burt wishes to reserve his position on [Redacted] until nearer the event.

Timing:
For Info.

Summary:
FCO Minister [Alistair Burt] has approved the list of countries that may be invited to send official delegates.

This is an important security trade event which is organised by ADS (trade association) on behalf of the Home Office. It brings together prospective purchasers and manufacturers of equipment and provides an effective facility for the UK security industry to demonstrate the range of its products to overseas customers. UKTI DSO supports the show as part of its role of working with industry to promote legitimate defence & security exports. UKTI DSO has established working procedures with ADS and Home Office that were successfully used at previous S&P events.

The Home Office Centre for Applied Science Technology (CAST) formerly called Home Office Scientific Development Branch (HOSDB) annual exhibition has been running for 30 plus years and is organised on behalf of CAST by the Aerospace Defence Security (ADS) trade association.

The name was altered last year to better reflect the enhancement and realignment of what was the Home Office Scientific Development Branch.

UKTI DSO became involved with this exhibition for the first time in 2010 with a role to identify and officially invite overseas government security related delegates. As with the last 3 exhibitions we are planning to use this exhibition to showcase the UK security sector to a select audience of senior overseas government security officials, who would be jointly invited by the Home Office and UK Trade & Investment. We envisage there will be around 400 exhibiting companies at the exhibition.
International delegations will be managed in a similar way to the other major defence and security exhibitions in the UK, DSEi and Farnborough Air Show. Each international delegation attending as UKTI DSO guests would be escorted and guided throughout the event by UKTI DSO staff, to fulfil a customised programme put together by UKTI DSO. Countries will be made aware that attending as a UK Government guest does not mean that they can automatically expect to receive approval to export equipment on display or being promoted at the event.

The event is open to (serving UK) government and law enforcement officials, together with personnel from the exhibiting companies. It is closed to members of the public. A selected number of journalists will also be invited to attend the exhibition.

The organisers draw exhibitors' attention to UK law on import / export / promotion of security equipment, including those which are banned or restricted. Representatives of BIS Export Control Organisation (ECO) will also be invited to be present while the event is set up in order to advise exhibitors consider the requirement of licences for exhibitors if required.

The cost of hosting the International delegations is mainly paid for by industry through ADS. This year £100K of UKTI funding is available for additional delegates. The will be a particular focus on attracting delegates with an interest in “Critical Infrastructure”. Other UKTI DSO costs are limited to staff time in preparing for the event and expenses relating to the supply of escort staff which are seen as part of normal business.

Defence and Security events in the past have attracted Parliamentary and media interest as well as the attention and some action by pressure groups. The Campaign Against the Arms Trade may draw attention to this event. Full press lines will be produced nearer the time.

At any time prior to the exhibition we may be asked by Parliamentarians or the public to provide details of those countries HMG has invited, or is planning to invite. We propose to withhold this information, in line with previous practice, until immediately before the event to avoid harming international relations.

Copied to:

Vince Cable (Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills)
David Willets (Minister of State for Universities and Science)
Michael Fallon (Minister of State for Business and Enterprise)
Lord Marland (Parliamentary Secretary for Business, Innovation and Skills, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State)
Jo Swinson (Minister for employment relations and consumer affairs, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State)
Mathew Hancock (Minister for Skills, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State)
Martin Donnelly (PS/Secretary of State)
Nick Baird (CE UKTI)
Richard Paniguian (UKTI Hd DSO)
Chris Baker (UKTI Ops Dir DSO)

Responsible Individual(s):

- UKTI Pal & Res Hd
- UKTI DSO Secretariat
Advice received from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finance</th>
<th>SpAds</th>
<th>Press / Comms</th>
<th>Legal</th>
<th>Analysts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex A - Countries, Territories and organisations cleared for invitation