Dear [Name],

Thank you for your email of where you requested the follow information:

The minutes of the Defence Growth Partnership that took place on 3 July 2013.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you are seeking and I am pleased to enclose a copy.

Some information constitutes personal data and has been withheld. Section 40 of the Act provides an absolute exemption for personal data which then falls to be dealt with 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. We do not think that it is fair to release the names of junior members of staff or third parties and do not think that any of the relevant conditions apply.

Appeals Procedure

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 sent to the Information Rights Unit at:
Information Rights Unit  
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
E-mail: foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above 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 for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

/  
Mrs [redacted]  
BIS BUSINESS SECTORS BRIEFING HUB
Introduction

Michael Fallon, the Minister for Business and Enterprise and co-chair, welcomed everyone to the first formal meeting of the Defence Growth Partnership. He highlighted the importance of the defence industry in the UK; both as a significant sector of the economy and in supplying world class equipment, services and support to our armed forces and others around the world. The PM had asked BIS to lead the DGP initiative as it is about boosting economic value and growth in defence while ensuring we do not undermine value for money in defence procurement. He recognised the challenges facing the sector and the need for government and industry to work together for a long term strategy for the sector.

Steve Wadey, Managing Director of MBDA UK and the industry co-chair, welcomed the companies and the great opportunity that the DGP presents the sector and the importance of working collectively. He set out the key aims of the meeting, which was to get agreement to the story board, key themes for the Strategic Vision to be announced in September, get a sense of the level of ambition for the DGP and to look ahead to the next phase of work (Phase 1).

Phillip Dunne, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology provided some supporting comments. He sees the export growth as an important part of MoD’s role and keen for their procurement practices to be supportive of exportability. There are benefits to the MoD from supporting exports and a strong UK supply chain. Opportunities exist for the DGP to drive innovation and maximise the synergies between the civil and defence markets and engineers from across sectors to exchange ideas.

DGP Strategic Vision

Paul Crawley [DGP Project Director] presented progress to date and set out the vision and key themes for the Strategic Vision document. The key themes around international business focus, enablers and capability were explored. The establishment of a number of teams and cross cutting working groups to look at these issues was proposed and discussed.

In discussion there was agreement that the DGP vision was right, though the specific language may need revisiting. Recognition of the importance of focusing on a small number of priorities and to build on our strengths. The key themes were the right ones to focus on and should form the core of the Strategic Vision document.

In discussion there was agreement that the proposals for teams (air capability, intelligent systems, international defence business and technology and enterprise) and working groups (value chain and competitiveness, skills and engagement) were the right things to focus on in Phase 1. That Phase 1
should be time bound to deliver results in a year’s time and that these teams should start to be set up now.

Ministers and fellow members of the DGP endorsed the story board for the Strategic Vision to be developed for Autumn 2013 and the key themes that should form the centre piece of it and the work going forward.

**Next Steps**

With the endorsement from the DGP, the Strategy Working Group should focus activity on developing the themes agreed at this meeting and the Strategic Vision document for Autumn 2013.

**Attendees**

**Joint Chairs**
- Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP  
  Minister for Business and Enterprise
- Steve Wadey  
  Managing Director, MBDA UK

**Business**
Redacted (S40)

**Government**
- Philip Dunne MP  
  Minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology
- Nick Payne  
  Director Commercial, Scrutiny & Industrial Policy, MOD
- Conrad Bailey  
  Defence Adviser, No10
- Richard Paniguan  
  Head, UKTI DSO
- Janice Munday  
  Director Advanced Manufacturing & Services, BIS
- Huw Walters  
  Head of Aerospace, Marine & Defence, BIS
Redacted (S40)

**Apologies**
Redacted (S40)