Dear [Name],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0977-13

Thank you for your email of 18 October asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

‘a list of all documents that relate to the potential withdrawal of UK arms companies from Saudi Arabia in the event of internal or regional instability. I anticipate this would include, but not be limited to, risk assessments by the FCO and communications with companies such as BAE Systems. I would like the request to cover documents and communications since the start of 2010.’

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not held by this Department.

While the FCO provides travel advice to the public, on the basis of risk assessments, companies will have their own thresholds and evacuation plans. In the event of deterioration in internal or regional stability, the Government would review and if necessary revoke outstanding export licenses, and would be in contact with the exporters affected.

I hope you are satisfied with this reply. However, if you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the FOI and DPA Team at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.10-13, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-
mail: foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk. You have 40 working days to do so from the date this letter. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

You can also find out more about previous FOI replies published on our website at Publications - Inside Government - GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Arabian Peninsula and Iraq Department