



Navy Command

**Naval Service FOI Coordination Cell
Navy Command Headquarters
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**Our Reference: 27-10-2009-145714-001
02-11-2009-101131-004
02-11-2009-100832-005**

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20 November 2009

Mr J H Large
Large and Associates
The Gatehouse
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Ha Ha Road
London SE18 4BQ
Via email: largeassociates@o2.co.uk

Dear Mr Large,

Request for Information – Additional Time to Reply

Further to our letter of 30 October 2009, I am writing to inform you that we are not yet in a position to provide you with a substantive reply to your requests for copies of:

- The MOD (internal DS&C/AD) Assessment of the NAR response plan for the Southampton berth (including transit to and from) as undertaken in accordance with LC11/AC1.
- The DISTAFF-SONART response under Item 41.
- The MOD/DSTL/NAVAL REGULATOR response under Item 42.

Under section 10(3)(b) of the FOI Act, a public authority may extend the 20 working day deadline for responding to a request if additional time is required to consider the public interest. It has been assessed that some of the information falls within the scope of a qualified exemption under the FOI Act at Section 26 – Defence - and it will be necessary for us to consider the balance of public interest in disclosing or withholding the information under this exemption.

Under s26(1)(b) information is exempt if its disclosure under the Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of any relevant forces. It is likely that some of the information may fall within the scope of s26 to the extent that it may reveal operational practices and techniques that are still in use or might otherwise compromise current or future operations or the capability, effectiveness or security of our Forces.

I am sorry that it is taking longer than originally hoped to conclude matters regarding your request and I can only ask for your understanding for the delay. I will contact you again

once the decision has been made, or by 18 December 2009, if the process of consideration has not been completed.

Yours sincerely

Anita McDonald