



RICHARD REEVE

By email: richard@rethinkingsecurity.org.uk

FOI Reference: FOI329681
20/03/2020

Dear RICHARD REEVE

I refer to your request where you asked:

"I would like to request the following information under Freedom of Information: How many organisations outside of UK Government were consulted with in preparation for the 2015 National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review? Which were these organisations? Yours sincerely, Richard Reeve Coordinator, Rethinking Security"

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 held by the Cabinet Office.

Thank you for your email dated 18 February in respect of the National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015 (NSS and SDSR 2015).

The NSC in 2015 agreed that officials and Ministers as needed should engage with external stakeholders, domestically and internationally, to shape reception of the NSS and SDSR 2015. In particular, the Government should do more domestic external engagement with those who shape the debate than in 2010. Domestically, the Government focused on:

- Parliament - provided background briefing to the relevant select committees
- Industry - through events arranged jointly with ADS (including RISC, the umbrella organisation for the domestic security industry) and directly with selected major companies (principally BAES, Rolls Royce, Babcock, Finmeccanica UK) at a senior level;

- Major think tanks, NGOs and academics - by supporting events that they organised and through a package of cross-cutting engagement events organised jointly between the Government and selected partners dispersed geographically across the UK utilising the existing MOD and FCO networks;
- Small groups of selected opinion leaders - including prominent retired diplomats and military officers.

A non-exhaustive list of the organisations which were formally consulted by the Cabinet Office are attached in the spreadsheet. The provided list does not provide organisations consulted by other Departments using their own Departmental networks.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Eirian Walsh Atkins
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

email: foi-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B.', written in a cursive style.

FOI Team
Cabinet Office