



Ministry of Defence

CIO, Level 2, Zone N, Desk 38, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB
Telephone (Direct dialling) 020-7218-1522 or 7974(PA) (Fax) 020-7218-7474
E-mail (Internal) CIO-CI-Head (External) CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk

Katie de Bourcier
Head of Corporate Information

D/CIO/3/18/1/412-08-01-2010-170920-001

The Revd John Ainslie
(Via e-mail to: john.ainslie@banthebomb.org)

4 Aug 2011

Dear Revd Ainslie,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: ICO Case FS50388915

Since writing in February this year to advise you of the outcome of the internal review conducted in relation to the above case, we have been assisting the Information Commissioner's Office with their enquiries in relation to your appeal. It is the Ministry of Defence's position that it applied the Act appropriately and correctly at the time of the internal review. However, there is sometimes scope for subsequent further release of information due to the passage of time.

As you know, since the internal review there has been an announcement in the House of Commons on the 18 May 2011 by the Secretary of State for Defence about the decisions taken at Initial Gate in relation to the Successor Submarine Project:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110518/debtext/110518-0001.htm#11051871000003>

In tandem with this the Ministry of Defence has published a report, *The United Kingdom's Future Nuclear Deterrent: The Submarine Initial Gate Deterrent Report*:

http://www.mod.uk/NR/rdonlyres/7F9F5815-C67B-47B1-B5C4-168E8AB50DC3/0/submarine_initial_gate.pdf.

In the light of these events we have considered whether, if you were to make a new request today for the same Defence Board documents you requested 17 months ago, we would be able to release additional information. As a result, I enclose some

less-redacted copies of pages previously released to you, which I hope you will find useful.

I will send a copy of this letter to Mr Slee at the ICO.

Yours sincerely

Katie deGruccio