Defense Committee
Chairman, Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis MP
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Mr Bob Keen
Head of Government Relations
BAE Systems plc
Stirling Square,
6 Carlton Gardens,
London SW1Y 5AD

13th December 2017

Dear Mr Keen,

We were extremely grateful for the evidence that BAE Systems and relevant trade unions gave to us on 28 November on the impact of the company's restructuring on UK Defence. As you will be aware we have written to the Secretary of State for Defence asking for his response on several matters raised at the session. It would also be helpful if BAE could further help our inquiry by responding to the following points (question numbers in brackets refer to the evidence transcript):

1. Further information on your plans to mitigate the impact of the Tornado coming out of service and to bridge the gap until the F-35 coming into operation. (Q2, Q19, Q22, Q32 & Q53)

2. The MoD state that the agreement between the Qatar and British Governments on 10 December "also includes a clear intention to proceed with the purchase of Hawk aircraft". How will this be taken forward and what is the planned timescale?

3. Further information on the concerns that you have expressed to the Ministry of Defence on the impact of the UK leaving the EU. (This should include any anticipated impact on each of the defence sectors in which BAE is involved and also the impact on employees). (Qq 25-28)

4. What are the elements required "for a clear view for military aerospace beyond Typhoon"? (Q33)

5. Similarly, what do you regard as being the most significant challenges for UK Defence in the other domains including information technology (especially cyber), and space?

6. Is it viable to bring forward the upgrade of the Red Arrows? How would this impact on you? (Qq48-49 and Qq79-81))

7. What work are you currently undertaking on the development of the Advanced Hawk? What discussions have taken place with the Government on the development, particularly the financing, of the Advanced Hawk?
8. What is your response to the unions' suggestion that there is a tension between T2 Hawk orders and the development of the Advanced Hawk? (Q64)

9. What is your reaction to the suggestion that major defence companies are attempting to move to a model where they develop advanced systems but do not manufacture them in the UK? (Q66)

We would be grateful to receive your response by 8 January 2018.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis
Chairman of the Defence Committee