

UK Transparency Initiative Timetable

[16 March 2011](#): In response to the events in the Middle East and North Africa, William Hague, Foreign Secretary, announces a review of the UK's arms exports policies and practices.

[13 October 2011](#): Having completed the review, the FCO concludes that the UK export control regime is sound but pledges to continue to work on ways to improve transparency and public information on defence and security exports.

[7 February 2012](#): Vince Cable, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, makes three proposals to improve the transparency of the export licensing system and announces that HMG will consult with various interested parties.

[March 2012](#): Consultations with industry begin by way of a questionnaire.

[July 2012](#): Government responds to consultations.

[13 July 2012](#): Providing an update on the implementation of his proposals after the governmental consultations, Vince Cable announces that Government would collect data on open licences which would include a description of the items exported or transferred, the destination, value and/or quantity, and some information about the end-user. He added that the data would then be published in aggregated form, by destination, in the Government's Quarterly and Annual Reports on Strategic Export Controls.

[21 March 2013](#): Notice to Exporters 2013/11 announces that the implementation of the Strategic Export Control Transparency Initiative is underway.

[15 May 2013](#): Notice to Exporters 2013/14 announces that further development time is necessary before the reporting system is up and running.

[1 July 2013](#): Notice to Exporters 2013/15 postpones the implementation of the new transparency requirements, technical changes to the reporting system having not been completed as planned.

[18 July 2013](#): The announcement by Vince Cable that some procedures relating to quarterly reporting would be dispensed is a first indication of the shift in the Government's commitment.

[31 July 2013](#): Notice to Exporters 2013/18 announced that reporting requirements on the use of Open Licences under the Transparency Initiative would be significantly scaled back.