

The following information is provided as extracts because it comes from documents containing other information outwith the scope of your request.

Item 1:

- Under this government's proposals, nuclear weapons would be removed from Scotland in the safest and quickest manner possible after independence.

Item 2:

Nuclear weapons

It has been the longstanding position of this Scottish Government that nuclear weapons have no place in an independent Scotland. Building a New Scotland: [Creating a modern constitution for an independent Scotland](#) proposed that the interim constitution should place a duty on the post-independence Scottish Government to pursue nuclear disarmament. This would mean that immediately upon securing a vote for independence, the Scottish Government would pursue negotiations with a view to securing the safe and expeditious removal of the nuclear weapons based in Scotland.

Item 3

1.1 Nuclear Weapons

What would be the future of nuclear weapons in an independent Scotland?

As set out in the Building a New Scotland Constitution paper, this Scottish Government proposes that the interim constitution should place a duty on the government of a post-independent Scotland to pursue nuclear disarmament.

This Scottish Government's position is clear; nuclear weapons should be removed from Scotland in the safest and most expeditious manner following independence.

How long would it take to negotiate removal of nuclear weapons?

Imposing an artificial deadline for negotiations on this issue would not be appropriate – but our objective is clear: to secure removal as soon as it is safe to do so.

S30(C) - Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

The reason why this exemption applies is because releasing draft plans for and content of Scottish Government publications and public communications, which do not reflect final decisions taken, would result in inaccurate information on the Scottish Government's proposals for the economy being published, thereby undermining the Scottish Government's ability to effectively and accurately engage and communicate with the public. This in turn would be likely to impair the Government's ability to take forward its work on policy development for Scotland's economy. This would constitute substantial prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs in terms of the exemption.

This exemption is subject to the 'public interest test'. Therefore, taking account of all the circumstances of this case, we have considered if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption. We have found that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exemption. We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosing information as part of open, transparent and accountable government, and to inform public debate. However, there is a greater public interest in enabling the Scottish Government to effectively and accurately engage and communicate with the public on its proposals for the economy without the risk of these proposals being prejudiced by inaccurate information, which doesn't reflect final decisions taken.