

REQUEST

I am aware at the moment that Bexleyheath Police Station is going through a massive refit with most single offices being removed and open plan hot-desking system being installed on all floors in order to take the large number of officers on a rota basis.

I would like to ask if under the "Freedom of Information Act" I could please have the total budget/cost for this work and also an idea of when this work will be completed.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request of 28 July to the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC). I confirm that MOPAC does hold information relating to your request; please see response below.

The project starts in mid-Sept, and is due to complete mid-Jan 22.

Regarding the cost of the project, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 43 of the FOIA. Commercial Interests. This allows the exemption from publication of any information which would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). Section 43 exemption is a qualified exemption and is therefore subject to a public interest test, set out below:

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure

To disclose the requested information would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure

The requested information relates to confidential details of bidders – the release of this information could be harmful both to bidders' commercial interests and to MOPAC's bargaining position when negotiating future contracts. Bidders may be unwilling to provide details of their techniques and capabilities in case these are later disclosed and potential tenderers could be dissuaded from tendering due to the risk that their confidential information may later be disclosed. Disclosure could be prejudicial to the selected bidders' commercial interests and have a detrimental effect on the procurement of services for the MOPAC.

Balance Test

There are factors favouring both disclosure and non-disclosure. The main factor favouring disclosure is openness and accountability; however, the impact of this factor is diminished due to the factors favouring non-disclosure outlined above. As such, it is my decision that the public interest at this time lies in favour of non-disclosure for the reasons outlined above.

If you are unhappy with the response to your Freedom of Information requests, please see the MOPAC website on what the next steps are at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/governance-and-decision-making/freedom-information>