

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA040918-2016

2 November 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 4 September 2018. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1. *A list of all current contracts with Idox with annual costs*
2. *Copies of all the currently in situ contracts with Idox*
3. *Total annual spend with Idox for each of the last 20 years for the borough (or as long as possible if the relationship does not extend that far back)*
4. *All documents submitted in the tender processes for the contracts which Idox currently operates (including competing bidding documents from other companies)*

Please find attached the information we have identified as within scope of your request.

In relation to part 2 of your request we hold a variation of the contract. This sets out amendments to the pricing schedule for 2016-18. In relation to part 3 of your request we do not hold annual spend figures prior to 2010/11.

Unfortunately, we are unable to disclose the information we do hold within scope of this part 2 and 3 and some content within part 4 of your request. This information being withheld under section 43 (2) (Commercial interests) of the FOIA.

Section 43(2) provides that information can be withheld from release if its release would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including those of the GLA. A commercial interest relates to a person's ability to participate competitively in a commercial activity and in this instance, the information is commercially sensitive, and is being requested at a time when the GLA is retendering this contract. Publication of this information prior to the contracts being secured may prevent the GLA from achieving the best value in a tender process.

Section 43(2) constitutes a qualified exemption from our duty to disclose information under the FOIA and consideration has to be given as to whether the public interest favouring disclosure of the information covered by this exemption outweighs the public interest considerations favouring maintaining the exemption and withholding the information.

In this instance the GLA recognises the legitimate public interest in the release of information relating to the annual breakdown of expenditure for the Idox contract.

In balancing the public interest in disclosure, we consider the greater good or benefit to the community as a whole if the information is released or not. The 'right to know' must be balanced against the need to enable effective government and serve the best interests of the public. In this case, it is felt that the public interest is best served by ensuring that the GLA achieves value for money in securing contracts. The public interest would not be met if the GLA released information that would result in the expenditure of further public money. Disclosure by the GLA would be likely to have a detrimental effect on the procurement of services.

We have also decided to withhold some information under section 40 (Personal information) of the Act. This information includes the names of employees and their CV's and as such constitutes as personal data which is defined by Article 4(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to mean any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. It is considered that disclosure of this information would contravene the first data protection principle under Article 5(1) of GDPR which states that Personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject..

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA040918-2016.

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>