



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

DIO Sec-Sec PBF011

Mr Alan Noakes

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Ref: 26-06-2012-141526-002

25-06-2012-152914-014

19 Julv 2012

Dear Mr Noakes

Request for Information: Regional Prime Contracts delivering routine maintenance services in the South West and South East of England

Thank you for your requests dated 25 and 26 June to 'Defence Estates' and the Britannia Royal Naval College for details about the Regional Prime Contracts for the South-East and South-West (RPC SE & RPC SW). The requests have been passed to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) – the Ministry of Defence (MOD) organisation with responsibility for the defence estate – and have been dealt with under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

I can confirm that the MOD holds information within the scope of your requests and provide the following responses to your questions.

What is the name of the person who is currently in charge of the responsive maintenance contract procurement?

Assuming you are referring to the new RPCs being delivered under DIO's Next Generation Estates Contracts (NGEC) programme, which includes new RPCs for the South East and South West of England, I can confirm that Mr Steve Rice is the Head of NGEC programme with overall responsibility for the delivery of these RPCs. Further information on the NGEC programme can be found on the MOD website at:

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/MicroSite/DIO/WhatWeDo/NGEC/>

What is their Job title?

See above.

At what address are they based?

DIO, Kingston Road Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7RL

What is their e-mail address?

diongec-group@mod.uk

How many buildings are in your current stock?

For the current RPCs for the South East and South West regions, there are some 3,900 and 2,600 buildings within the scope of each respectively.

Are responsive maintenance needs within your buildings stock, currently met by a Direct Labor Organization?

For both current RPCs, there is a mixture of directly employed labour and sub contractors (SW & SE).

If yes, what percentage of responsive maintenance work do they undertake?

Some 60% for RPC SW and 19% for RPC SE.

With regards to your other questions, while I can confirm that the MOD holds information within the scope of your these, some or all of them might fall within the scope of a qualified exemption of the FOI Act. The relevant exemption is Section 43 (Commercial Interests), which provides that information is exempt from disclosure if it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the authority holding it.

As the exemption is subject to the balance of the public interest. By virtue of section 10(3) of the Act, where public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest, they do not have to comply with the request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances. The MOD has not yet reached a decision and I will not be able to respond to this element of your request within 20 working days because of the need to carefully consider the issues involved. Our decision will be made as soon as possible and I will inform you immediately thereafter.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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