



HM Revenue & Customs

Elise

By email: request-651844-
2ddaca2b@whatdotheyknow.com

Freedom of Information Team
S1715
6 Floor
Central Mail Unit
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE98 1ZZ

Email foi.request@hmrc.gov.uk

Web www.gov.uk

Date: 23 March 2020
Our ref: FOI2020/00504

Dear Elise

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request, which was received on 3 March, for the following information:

- “1. When was the original contract for the HMRC Connect project let? When did it expire, and what was its value?
2. How much has the Connect project been worth to date at HMRC?
3. How was Connect originally procured? Was it procured through an open competition, or through a prime contractor such as CapGemini?
4. Please provide any available business case documentation relating to investment in the Connect platform.
5. Please provide any details on the Connect platform capabilities and how they are used at HMRC.
6. When are HMRC’s requirements for Connect-type capabilities going to be re-tendered?
7. How is the Connect re-tender process going to work? Which framework or procurement method (OJEU etc) will be adopted?
8. What is the proposed scope of the Connect re-tender?
9. Please provide all available details of the Connect2 project.
10. Please provide all available details of the Protect Connect project.
11. Please provide all details of the Protect Connect Rich Picture.”

To qualify as a valid submission under the FOIA, a request must fulfil the criteria set out in Section 8 of the Act which states the following:

FOIA 8. (1) In this Act any reference to a “request for information” is a reference to such a request which;

- (a) Is in writing,
- (b) States the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence, and
- (c) Describes the information requested.

Your FOI request has been classified as invalid as your request does not fulfil the criteria of section 8(1) (b).

Guidance from the Information Commissioners Office to public authorities in receipt of FOIA requests regarding Section 8 states:

Any variation of the requester's title or first name combined with their surname (such as Mr Smith or John Smith) will be sufficient to meet this requirement. However, a first name or surname provided in isolation, or a set of initials, will not.

Full details of the guidance can be found at;

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1164/recognising-a-request-made-under-the-foia.pdf>

As the request has been deemed as invalid, I am not obliged to disclose the requested information at this point.

Please note that non-valid FOI request is not subject to internal review.

If you are not satisfied with this reply you may request a review within two months by emailing foi.review@hmrc.gov.uk, or by writing to the address at the top right-hand side of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review you can [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).

Yours sincerely,

HMRC Freedom of Information Team