



Ref 2016.13

Philip Norman

Via e-mail to <request-335762-b94a4def@whatdotheyknow.com>

06/06/2016

Dear Mr Norman,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Request Number: 2016.13

Description: Washroom Services framework agreement

I can confirm that some of the information requested is held by Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation. We do not hold data to show the expiry of individual contracts awarded as a result of the previous washroom services framework. We do not hold any of the information requested on the current version of the washroom services framework.

Your request for information has now been considered and it is not possible to meet your request for which contracts have been awarded as a result of the previous and current versions of the Washroom Services framework agreement, the value of these contracts and who they were awarded to. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Public Interest Refusal Notice. It is considered that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

The exemption applied to the information is:

- When the release of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any persons (s43).

Decision re s.43 exemption

Section 43 applies because the information requested is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of ESPO and the companies who were previously and are currently awarded on the framework for Washroom Services.

espo.org

ESPO, Barnsdale Way, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester, LE19 1ES

Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation - A local authority purchasing and distribution consortium

John Doherty BSc ACA, Director General enquiries: 0116 265 7878





Public Interest Test (s.43)

ESPO has weighed up the public interest of disclosing the requested information on what contracts have been awarded as a result of the previous and current versions of the Washroom Services framework agreement, the value of these contracts and who they were awarded to.

In favour of disclosure is the openness and transparency of ESPO's decisions and actions.

This is weighed up against the need for ESPO acting as a commercial organisation to be able to achieve best value. It is also weighed up against the commercial interests of the companies involved in the framework. ESPO considers that the release of this detailed information is likely to give competitors a commercial advantage.

On balance ESPO believes that the public interest is best served by maintaining the exemption to enable ESPO to act with financial prudence and to engage with companies without prejudice in the future.

If you are unhappy with the way ESPO has handled your request you may ask for an internal review. You should contact Amy Theerman at ESPO, Barnsdale Way, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester, LE19 1ES, telephone 0116 265 7931, e-mail A.Theerman@espo.org if you wish to complain quoting the FOI Request Number.

For independent advice, you may wish to contact the Information Commissioner's Office at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 0303 123 1113, www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

John Doherty
Director

espo.org

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