

## Freedom of Information Request to Teesside University

Our reference: FOI 21174  
Request received: 13 August 2021  
Response sent: 3 September 2021

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Dear Requestor

Further to its recent acknowledgement, the University is now in a position to provide you with a response to your request for information dated 13 August 2021.

We have dealt with your request in accordance with your “right to know” under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (subsequently referred to as FOIA 2000) which entitles you to be provided with information “held” by a public authority, unless an appropriate exemption applies.

We have responded to your request below.

1. How are facilities management services (hard FM, soft FM or TFM) handled across your estate?
2. If any services are outsourced, which services and to which suppliers?
3. What are the start dates and durations of these contracts, and which services are included in each?
4. Is there an extension clause in the contract(s) and if so, what is the duration of the extension?
5. Has a decision been made yet on whether the contract(s) are being either extended or renewed?
6. What is the job title of the senior officer (outside of procurement) responsible for the contract(s)?
7. Do you utilise any outsourced helpdesk or FM integrator services? If so, with which supplier(s)?

8. Which software solution(s) are used to manage your corporate property/assets including facilities management (CAFM)?

**Response**

s.14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 stipulates that we are not obliged to comply with your 'right to know' under section 1(1) of Freedom of Information Act 2000 which entitles you to be provided with information 'held' by a public authority, if your request for information is vexatious. In this context, vexatious has the meaning of manifestly unjustified, inappropriate or improper use of a formal procedure.

The University believes that your request is likely to cause a disproportionate and unjustified level of disruption, detracting from the provision of mainstream services, particularly in the current pandemic where resources are by necessity focused on business-critical activities. The University also believes that your request does not have any clear public interest purpose and is made for the purposes of seeking details in order to sell goods or services. Without clear public interest the University considers commercial requests vexatious in line with the Upper Tribunal ruling recently upheld by the Court of Appeal

<http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKUT/AAC/2013/440.html>

If you contend that your request is other than for commercial purposes, please provide us with details of what the public interest is in obtaining this information. Otherwise, this information requested is withheld from disclosure under s14 of the FOIA 2000.

A copy of Teesside University's Appeals and Complaints process in relation to Freedom of Information Requests is attached.

Kind regards  
Information Governance Team