



Liliana Dmitrovic
Via Email
request-29974-b8ff32a9@whatdotheyknow.com

Communities, Law and Governance
Direct Line – 020 7525 7511
Fax – 020 7525 7675
accessinfo@southwark.gov.uk

19 April 2010

Dear Liliana Dmitrovic

Re: Your request for information: Ref No. 4862

Thank you for your request for information that was received on 2 March 2010 and your clarification received on 16 March 2010 in which you requested:

I would appreciate it if you would forward me an electronic copy (pdf preferable) of all contractors and consultants currently employed by Southwark Council.

The information needs to include the following:

- **name of service provider**
- **description of service provided**
- **cost of the contract**
- **contract start and expiry dates**

We have looked at our financial management system (SAP) reports which show over 5500 records, many of which are manual accounting journals used to move costs between accounts and to account for debtors, creditors, prepayments and payments in advance from previous or subsequent financial years. To create the information requested would require reviewing each of the journals and tracing them back to identify the original payments.

Having considered your request we have estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and for local government is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Consequently, we are not obliged by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to respond to your request (see section 12(1)).

However, if you narrow the scope of your request, we may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so. Any reformulated request we receive from you will be treated as a fresh FOI request.

This exemption is subject to a public interest test and having considered the public interest test my view is that the public interest reasons for maintaining the exemption are greater than the public interest reasons for overriding the same.

In accordance with section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for the information requested above.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make an appeal for a review of our decision, you should write to the Corporate Freedom of Information Officer at:

Communities, Law & Governance
Level 2
PO Box 64529
London
SE1P 5LX
Email: accessinfo@southwark.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome your appeal, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted our internal appeal procedure and you should contact him within 2 months of the outcome of your internal appeal.

Further information on the Freedom of Information Act is available through the Information Commissioner at the:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
Internet: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Janet McDonald
Corporate Freedom of Information Officer
Communities, Law & Governance