

Trevor Price  
Via: request-735895-cb08178d@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: IR2021/08495

11 June 2021

Dear Trevor Price

Cabinet Office Internal Review Reference: **IR2021/08495**  
(Original Case Reference: **FOI2021/05286**)

#### REVIEW OF REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email. You asked for an internal review of our response to your request for information concerning subcontractors that are being used by Alexander Mann Solutions under the Public Sector Resourcing framework agreement.

I have carefully reviewed the handling of your request and I consider that the original response was correct based on a reasonable interpretation of your request. There is only one prime supplier providing services under the Public Sector Resourcing Framework (RM3749), that being Alexander Mann Solutions. I can confirm that there are several hundred subcontractors operating as part of AMS' own supply chain, but I believe the release of the full list of subcontractors would not be in the public interest under Section 43(2) of the FOIA, as set out in my original response.

Subcontractors are widely used throughout all categories of Central Government and wider public sector commercial activity. Where subcontractors are used, the contractual relationship remains between the public sector authority and the prime supplier, not with any subcontractors that the prime supplier may nominate.

Whilst there is a requirement in the Public Contracts Regulations to publish successful prime supplier information online (as we have done so for RM3749), there is no such requirement to publish details of subcontractors that each prime supplier uses.

I have therefore concluded that I should uphold the decision given in our original letter.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request for information you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House

Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Rachel Anderson  
Head of Freedom of Information  
Cabinet Office