



Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat



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A J Porteous

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18 February 2020

Reference: FOI2020/01700/01704/01706

Dear A J Porteous

Thank you for your three emails of 5 February 2020 which asked for the following information:

I would like to request a list of all live contracts for Defence ICT(including MOD ISS and MOD DE&S) including:- Contract number Contract title Supplier Current contract manager Total contract value Total spend to date Payments in year Last payment date Contract start date Contract end date Competitive / non-competitive SME indicator A list of MOD key suppliers

I would like to request a list of all live contracts for Defence ICT within MOD DE&S including:- Contract number Contract title Supplier Current contract manager Total contract value Total spend to date Payments in year Last payment date Contract start date Contract end date Competitive / non-competitive SME indicator A list of MOD key suppliers

I would like to request a list of all live contracts for Defence ICT within MOD ISS including:- Contract number Contract title Supplier Current contract manager Total contract value Total spend to date Payments in year Last payment date Contract start date Contract end date Competitive / non-competitive SME indicator A list of MOD key suppliers

I am treating your emails as requests for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. Please note that this response is provided in answer to all three of your requests. A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your requests is held. However, I must advise you that I will not be able to answer your questions without exceeding the appropriate limit for FOI requests.

While the MOD contracts database can identify some contracts specifically related to computer hardware and software, this is not comprehensive and does not provide a full picture of all ICT contracts in either the MOD, Defence Digital (formerly Information Systems and Services) or Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S). In addition, the contracts database does not reliably indicate whether a supplier is a small and medium-sized enterprise. As such, consultation with Defence Digital, DE&S and wider MOD commercial branches would be required to answer your requests.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working

days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. I estimate that dealing with your request would take more than 300 hours of effort at a cost of more than £7,500.

Under Section 16 of the Act, the MOD may be able to provide information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine it to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. You should note that the term 'ICT' can cover a wide range of products and services, from photocopying services to technical advice and air traffic management. In addition, both DE&S and Defence Digital are likely to have awarded many hundreds of contracts in scope of your request. You may wish, therefore, to refine your request to contracts with a particular supplier or for a specific product or service.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

DE&S Secretariat