



Home Office

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Stephen Delahunty
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FOI: 54767
28 August 2019

Dear Mr Delahunty,

Thank you for your e-mail request of 29 July 2019. This is a follow up to your request of 3 June (HO reference 53953) for a list of all the contracts that currently exist between the department's Research, Information and Communications Unit (RICU) and any agency or businesses employed to do work on the RICU's behalf.

Specifically you request:

- The name of the agency or business involved in each contract, and the cost of each contract.

Your request is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

We are considering your request. Although the Act carries a presumption in favour of disclosure, it provides exemptions which may be used to withhold information in specified circumstances. Some of these exemptions, referred to as 'qualified exemptions', are subject to a public interest test. This test is used to balance the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in favour of withholding the information. The Act allows us to extend the 20-working day response target where we need to consider the public interest test fully.

The information which you have requested is being considered under the exemptions at section 43 (commercial interests) of the Act. These are qualified exemptions and to consider the public interest test fully, we need to extend the 20-working day response deadline.

We therefore, aim to provide a response on or before **25 September 2019**.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information
Home Office

