



North East Procurement Organisation
Guildhall
Quayside
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 3AF
Telephone: 0191 433 5949
Email: governance@nepo.org

Dave Orr (sent by email)

18th November 2020

Dear Mr Orr,

Freedom of Information Request – Request for an internal review.

I refer to your request of ***Pls disclose the case studies & references used to admit Ignite to the NEPO NEPRO procurement framework*** for a review of NEPO's response to your Freedom of Information request.

Your initial request was:

- 1) Please disclose the "Two case studies relevant to each category of accreditation" for Ignite's accreditation;
- 2) Please disclose "One supporting reference for each category of accreditation" for Ignite's accreditation.

NEPO's response was:

- 1) Such Case Studies are submitted to Bloom as part of a private sector to private sector accreditation process. Bloom are a private limited company who provide a service to NEPO. Such case studies are therefore not subject to FOI.
- 2) Such references are submitted to Bloom as part of a private sector to private sector accreditation process. Bloom are a private limited company who provide a service to NEPO. Such references are therefore not subject to FOI.

Your request for a review was:

- 1) Please confirm that the person(s) who rejected this FOI request have had appropriate FOI Act training and hold appropriate certification.
- 2) I contend that the information held by Bloom on how suppliers were accredited is held on behalf of NEPO and is therefore open to disclosure under the FOI Act.

Please now supply the high public interest information requested.

NEPO's Decision

Having reviewed NEPO's initial response, I confirm that we have reviewed your new request and have provided the following response:

- 1) Please confirm that the person(s) who rejected this FOI request have had appropriate FOI Act training and hold appropriate certification**

NEPO is provided with external legal guidance from Gateshead Council, we refer and receive support on all of our FOI requests to their Data Protection and FOI team.

- 2) I contend that the information held by Bloom on how suppliers were accredited is held on behalf of NEPO and is therefore open to disclosure under the FOI Act.**

Please now supply the high public interest information requested

NEPO does not hold the information that is being requested, therefore we cannot disclose information we do not have access to or hold.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 only applies to information that is held by an organisation. As described below, the information you have requested is held by private companies. NEPO has not been given copies of this information from Bloom. The information you have requested is therefore not held by NEPO and therefore cannot be disclosed.

As detailed below:

Such Case Studies are submitted to Bloom as part of a private sector to private sector accreditation process. Bloom are a private limited company who provide a service to NEPO. Such case studies are therefore not subject to FOI.

Such references are submitted to Bloom as part of a private sector to private sector accreditation process. Bloom are a private limited company who provide a service to NEPO. Such references are therefore not subject to FOI.

RIGHT TO REVIEW

You may apply to the Managing Director, Guildhall, Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE13AF, for an internal review of the decision. This will be a fresh consideration of your request by a more senior officer. If you wish to request a review must do this in writing within 40 days of receipt of this letter.

Following the internal review if you are still unhappy you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner as specified below.

You may apply under Section 50 of the Act to the Information Commissioner at the address given below

Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

For a decision whether, in any specified respect, a request for information made by you to the Department/office has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of Part 1 of the Act.

The Information Commissioner shall consider the matter fully and make a fresh decision.

Yours Sincerely

North East Procurement Organisation Governance Team.