



Core Services Directorate
Customer Information & Digital Services
Service Director – David Robinson

To be sent via email:

What do they know

V Prasad

[request-689146-](#)

[ca149941@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

My Ref: FOIA 5499

Your Ref:

Date: 27 October 2020

Enquiries to: Mrs Jane Buchan

Direct Dial: 01226 772445

E-Mail: InformationRequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear V Prasad

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the Core Services Directorate has now completed its search for the information which you requested by e-mail on 3 September 2020.

Your questions and my findings are as follows: -

1. Do you provide traded services to schools in your area, or do you contract this out to another party that is outside the local authority? If so, to which?

Yes – Traded services are provided to schools in our area via a dedicated BMBC team (Code Green).

2. Which school MIS (management information systems) providers do you hold support contracts or accreditations with, and for each MIS provider:

Currently support customers who have contracts with Capita SIMS and Arbor

a) What is the nature of the current arrangement (a paid contract, an unpaid accreditation)? – We hold no direct contracts with any providers of MIS

b) When did the current arrangement begin and when it will finish (including any extensions)? – No formal arrangements in place with either MIS provider

c) If a paid contract, under what basis did you procure it (e.g. directly, through a framework, via OJEU procurement, other)? – Not applicable

3. How many schools do you provide MIS support services to, and:

a) How does this break down by Primary Academies, Primary Maintained, Secondary Academies, Secondary Maintained, Other (incl. PRUs, SENs)?

b) How does this break down by MIS provider?

c) How has this total changed between 2018/19, 2019/20 and this year (say as at June 1st 2018 vs. June 1st 2019 vs. June 1st 2020, or any similar convenient dates)?

Services to schools including MIS support are delivered by Barnsley Council through a traded service named Code Green. It is viewed the following information requested is commercially sensitive and passing this level of detail would put Code Green at a distinct competitive disadvantage.

Code Green is wholly owned by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and provides specialist education-related services to the council. Please see their website below:- <http://www.code-green.co.uk/>

Therefore, I apply section 43(2) Commercial interest and withhold this information.

As this is a publically owned company, it is permitted to engage in commercial activities and any information held in relation to these activities, will potentially fall within the scope of the exemption. Disclosure is likely to weaken its position in a competitive environment by revealing market-sensitive information or information of potential usefulness to its competitors.

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

4. As part of your support to schools for each of these MIS providers, which of the following activities do you carry out (I am interested in whether the activities differ between MIS providers):

- a) 1st line support - Yes
- b) 2nd line support - Yes
- c) 3rd line support - No
- d) Implementations – We work with 3rd party MIS suppliers as and when required
- e) Data audits / cleansing – as above
- f) Regulatory / census submissions – customers supported on an as and when basis
- g) Server management – not in scope of the MIS team
- h) Main data hosting - No
- i) Data backup - customers supported on an as and when basis
- j) User training - customers supported on an as and when basis
- k) Provide templates / configuration - customers supported on an as and when basis
- l) Analysis of data / insight services - customers supported on an as and when basis
- m) Resale of the software to schools (on a commission basis) - Yes
- n) Hosting or arranging local user group meetings / events – when demand arises

5. What was your total traded services income from schools (for all services) in 2018/19 and 2019/20? Please see spreadsheet attached to the covering email.

6. What was your total traded service income for providing schools with MIS support for 2018/19 and 2019/20? This information is commercially sensitive and therefore not appropriate to share. I apply section 43(2) and refer to my response for question 3.

7. What is the current amount of de-delegated funding that you levy on LA-maintained schools (either in total, on a per school level, or a per learner level - whichever is easiest)?

The following is the total amount de-delegated from maintained schools in Barnsley for 2020/21:

school contingency	233,006
Free school meals eligibility	7,413
Staff costs supply cover	162,485

8. What software or digital tools (learning, safeguarding or admin) do you provide to schools under the de-delegated funding allocation? As part of our Commercial offering we provide a variety of software and digital tools at the request of the customer. We do not have a single standard offering.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Jane Buchan on (01226) 772445. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

InformationRequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://www.ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely



David Robinson
Service Director – Customer Information & Digital Services

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