

J Taylor

Business Support Resources Group Warwickshire County Council Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL

Please ask for Sarah Turpin

**Our ref**: 2326929 **Your ref**: **Date**: 11 May 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

#### Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am pleased to provide some of the information you have requested. I have detailed below the information.

We requested clarification for the term "Internal Bank Staff", however we did not receive a reply so we are unable to answer question 4. If you are able to clarify the term please contact us.

I can confirm that the remainder of the information you have requested in question 6e is held by Warwickshire County Council, by law. However, I'm unable to give this to you.

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 43 (Prejudicial to commercial interests) applies to the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

#### Factors in favour of disclosure



- Transparency in respect of how the Council spends public money;
- Enabling public scrutiny in ensuring that the Council is securing the best use of public resources

# Factors in favour of withholding

This exemption applies because disclosure of the information in question could prejudice third parties' commercial interests.

In all the circumstances of the question, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Please see full explanation at question 6e below.

1. Please provide the organisation's total expenditure on temporary agency staff for 2015/16

### £8,014,007.95

2. Please state which staffing group has the highest temporary agency spend for 2015/16 (eg. admin & clerical, community services, legal etc.)

## **Social Care & Support Services**

- 3. Does the organisation use any 3rd party services/software to manage agency workers? If so, please provide the following information:
- a. Provider Name N/A
- b. Description of Services N/A
- c. Annual Cost to Organisation in 2015/16 (£) N/A
- d. Contract End Date N/A
- e. Framework used for procurement N/A

#### We don't use 3rd party software to manage agency workers.

4. Please provide the organisation's total expenditure on internal bank staff for 2015/16  $(\mathfrak{L})$ 

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We requested clarification for the term "Internal Bank Staff", however we did not receive a reply so we are unable to answer the question accurately.

- 5. Does the organisation use any 3rd party services/software to manage bank workers? If so, please provide the following information:
- a. Provider Name
- b. Description of Services
- c. Annual Cost to Organisation in 2015/16 (£)
- d. Contract End Date

We requested clarification for the term "Bank Workers", however we did not receive a reply so we are unable to answer the question accurately.

- 6. Payroll
- a. How does the organisation manage their payroll? (in-house/outsourced) In-House
- b. How frequently does the organisation run its payroll? (monthly/weekly) **Monthly**
- c. Which staff types does the payroll cover? (substantive/temporary) **Permanent and Temporary**
- d. How many payslips did the organisation process in 2015/16? **158,005**
- e. What is the annual cost of the payroll services provision in 2015/16?

As this is a traded service the exemption applied is Section 43 (commercial interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

This exemption applies because disclosure of the information in question could prejudice third parties' commercial interests.

The reason why the public interest favours withholding disclosure is that it is not in the public interest for the Council to deter future suppliers from bidding for future contracts as this may mean that the Council does not get the best deal and therefore is not spending public money as efficiently as it could be. In addition, it is not in the public interest for suppliers to withhold information from future tender submissions because they are concerned about future disclosure, as this would mean the Council cannot

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make an informed decision when choosing a supplier and therefore may not get the best deal. Finally, it is in the public interest to ensure fair commercial competition in a mixed economy and therefore it would not be in the public interest to affect competition by giving one potential supplier an unfair advantage.

However, the Council does recognise that there are argument(s) in favour of disclosure which are as follows:

Transparency in respect of how the Council spends public money;

 Enabling public scrutiny in ensuring that the Council is securing the best use of public resources

Nevertheless, the Council considers that in all circumstances, on balance the public interest favours withholding the information at this time.

- f. If outsourced, which 3rd party do you use? N/A
- g. If outsourced, what is the contract end date? N/A

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

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:

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The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Phone: 0303 123 1113 Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Turpin Programme Support Manager

> Working for Warnickshire