

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/23/688

Facilities Management

Information Requested:

1. Office and building cleaning – Service contract that is focused around office, commercial and building cleaning services.
 2. Lift service and maintenance – Service contract for lift service and maintenance.
 3. Food – Service contract that is focused around catering services.
 4. General waste services contracts – The organisation's primary general waste service contract.
 5. Laundry services - where clothes and linen can be washed and ironed.
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1. Contract profile questionnaire for each type of contract:
 2. Supplier/Provider of the services
 3. Total Annual Spend – The spend should only relate to each of the service contracts listed above.
 4. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.
 5. The number of sites the contract covers
 6. [ONLY FOR LIFT CONTRACT] The Brand name of the type of lifts used by the organisation
 7. The start date of the contract
 8. The end date of the contract
 9. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.
 10. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts? name, Job Title, contact number and email address.

Response Details:

Office and Building Cleaning

1. Supplier/provider of the services.

Solo Group Services.

2. Total annual spend.

After considering your request, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) considers this information to be exempt from disclosure under section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('Commercial interests'). This section of the Act sets out an exemption from the right to know if:

- the information requested is a trade secret, or
- release of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. (A person may be an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity.)

This exemption was considered by the UHB when deciding whether to disclose information because it considered that in doing so there could be a significant risk in prejudicing the commercial interests of both the supplier and the UHB. As this is a qualified exemption, the UHB is required to complete a public interest test in deciding whether it is in the public's interest to withhold or disclose the information.

In favour of disclosure: There is a public interest in transparency and in the accountability of spending of public funds. Furthermore, it is in the public's interest that public funds be used effectively and that public sector bodies obtain the best value for money when contracting for the provision of services.

Against disclosure: It has been established that releasing the information sought under the Freedom of Information Act, to which the UHB is subject, will give an unfair advantage to the supplier's competitors. There is a risk of disclosure prejudicing the commercial interests of the UHB by affecting its bargaining position with suppliers. This in turn could lead to less effective use of public funds in future. The UHB believes that there is wider established public interest in suppliers not being prejudiced merely because they have contracted with a public sector body (as upheld in ICO decision notice FS50473543 *ICO v Royal Marsden Hospital Trust*).

Decision: The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the interests in disclosing it and thereby giving unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the supplier to which this information concerns. The UHB believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests and relationships arising in a commercial context could have the effect of discouraging companies from dealing with the Health Board because of fears that the disclosure of information could damage them commercially. In turn this could then jeopardise the Health Board's ability to compete fairly and pursue its function to bring forward development in the area and obtain value for money. It was therefore decided that it was not in the public's interest to disclose this information.

3. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.

Cleaning and security services.

4. The number of sites the contract covers.

One site.

5. The start date of the contract.

1 March 2023.

6. The end date of the contract.

28 February 2024.

7. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.

1 March 2023 to 28 February 2024, with an extension option for a period of up to 24 months.

8. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts?

After considering your request, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) believes that the data requested is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. Its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing with regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of the GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

Lift Service and Maintenance

1. Supplier/provider of the services.

Otis.

2. Total annual spend.

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 43 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

3. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.

Provision of the maintenance and repair of lifts.

4. The number of sites the contract covers.

Eight.

5. The brand name of the type of lifts used by the organisation.

Otis, Kone, TKE, Arona, and Cardiff Lift.

6. The start date of the contract.

1 July 2023.

7. The end date of the contract.

30 May 2028.

8. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.

1 July 2023 to 30 May 2028.

9. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts?

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 40(2) exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Food (Catering Services)

Please see the attached Excel document for information on points 1 and 5–7.

1. Supplier/provider of the services.
2. Total annual spend.

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 43 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

3. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.

The provision of catering services, including food and drinks supply.

4. The number of sites the contract covers.

Nine sites, plus community sites.

5. The start date of the contract.
6. The end date of the contract.
7. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.
8. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts?

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 40(2) exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

General Waste Services

1. Supplier/provider of the services.

Biffa.

2. Total annual spend.

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 43 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

3. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.

Provision of non-hazardous and bulky waste collection.

4. The number of sites the contract covers.

Eight.

5. The start date of the contract.

31 March 2023.

6. The end date of the contract.

31 March 2027.

7. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.

A length of two years, with an extension option for a period of up to 24 months.

8. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts?

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 40(2) exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Laundry Services

1. Supplier/provider of the services.

Washco.

2. Total annual spend.

This is an income-generation contract.

3. A description of the services provided under this contract please includes information if other services are included under the same contract.

Provision of residents' laundry equipment.

4. The number of sites the contract covers.

One.

5. The start date of the contract.

1 July 2023.

6. The end date of the contract.

30 June 2030.

7. The duration of the contract, please include information on any extensions period.

1 July 2023 to 30 June 2030.

8. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts?

The UHB is withholding this detail under the section 40(2) exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.