

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/308

Contract data

Information Requested:

Office and Building Cleaning

1. Supplier/Provider of the services

Solo Service Group

2. Total Annual Spend – The spend should only relate to each of the service contracts listed above.

Section 43 – After considering your request, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) considers this information to be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Section 43) 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.

The contract covers the provision of general office cleaning and security Services

4. The number of sites the contract covers

Woodland House

5. The start date of the contract

01/03/2023

6. The end date of the contract

28/02/2024

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

1+1+1

8. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts? name, Job Title, contact number and email address.*

After considering your request, 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 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of 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.

General Waste

9. Supplier/Provider of the services

Biffa Waste Services

10. Total Annual Spend – The spend should only relate to each of the service contracts listed above.

Please refer to the UHB's response to Q2

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

Non-Hazardous and Bulky Waste Collection for CVUHB

12. The number of sites the contract covers

All Premises

13. The start date of the contract

01/04/2023

14. The end date of the contract

31/03/2025

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

2+1+1

16. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts? name, Job Title, contact number and email address.*

Please refer to the UHB's response to Q8

Lifts

17. Supplier/Provider of the services

Otis

18. Total Annual Spend – The spend should only relate to each of the service contracts listed above.

Please refer to the UHB's response to Q2

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

Repairs of lifts and maintenance of lifts

20. The number of sites the contract covers

All sites

21. The start date of the contract

19/06/2023 (Repairs of lifts), 01/06/2023 (Maintenance of lifts)

22. The end date of the contract

30/04/2028 (Repairs of lifts), 30/05/2028 (Maintenance of lifts)

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

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24. Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contracts? name, Job Title, contact number and email address. *

Please refer to the UHB's response to Q8