

Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA  
21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3HF

By email

01 September 2016

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)- Request For Information

Reference: FOI 92072016

Dear 

Thank you for your email in which you request information concerning IT expenditure within Ofwat.

Ofwat confirms it does hold the information requested.

As requested the attached spreadsheet has been completed in response to your questions and as confirmed refined to the financial period 2015-2016.

Ofwat publishes all contracts to the value of £10,000 + and these are located on the open government site [Contract Finder](#). Ofwat is the branding name for the Water Services Regulator which may explain why you may have had difficulty locating this information and you do have to register for free to ensure a full search is returned.

Excluded from the spreadsheet is information regarding temporary staff members as this is exempt from disclosure under S21 – Information reasonably accessible elsewhere. This information can also be found on Contract Finder in redacted form.

The reference numbers for our temporary staff are as follows:

1. PROC.4.0070 Interim Microsoft Systems Centre 2012 Engineer
2. PROC.04.0076 Interim Technical Project Manager

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### 3. PROC.04.0093 Interim Microsoft Skype Specialist

As part of the open government guidance we disclose contracts with third party detail redacted to exclude personal data such as an individual's day rate, contact details etc., however the contract total value is disclosed. On review of your request we consider that this information remains exempt from disclosure.

The exemption that applies in this instance is:  
Section 40(2) – Personal Data

This exemption applies because Ofwat considers that it would be a breach of the Data Protection Principles to disclose personal data of third party details including those of temporary staff below that of Senior Management level. In accordance with Principle 1 of the Data Protection Act (DPA), personal data should be collected fairly and lawfully and meet a condition in schedule 2 of the DPA. We feel that disclosure of staff or third party details including personal expenses would breach this principle.

If you have any queries or concerns with regard to the content of this email please do contact me, quoting the reference number.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, please contact:

Programme and Project Management Office  
Ofwat  
Centre City Tower  
7 Hill Street  
Birmingham B5 4UA  
[mailbox@ofwat.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mailbox@ofwat.gsi.gov.uk)

If you are not happy with the outcome of that review you can ask the Information Commissioner's Office to consider your complaint. Generally, the ICO will not make a decision unless you have exhausted Ofwat's complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA  
21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3HF  
or

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow

Yours sincerely,

Christine Manise  
Senior Associate, Freedom of Information  
Programme and Project Management  
Ofwat  
Centre City Tower  
7 Hill Street  
Birmingham B5 4UA