

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

By email

12 June 2017

Freedom of Information Act - Request For Information

Reference: FOI 34052017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email in which you request information concerning

Ofwat confirms it does hold the information requested.

The notification to tender by Ofwat for the Parliamentary Monitoring contract can be found on the publicly available Contract Finder website at the following link [Parliamentary Monitoring Services - Contracts Finder](#). The Invitation to Tender (ITT) and Evaluation template indicating how tenders are evaluated in respect to the weighting criteria are attached.

Guidance to staff on how to evaluate tenders is also attached.

Also are attached are the three tenders for this particular contract. All tenders have been redacted as Ofwat considers some of this information to be exempt from disclosure.

The exemptions that apply in all cases are:

s40 – 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 parties who have not given their consent to disclose their personal data.

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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

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. Personal data collected during the bidding process was collected in a fair and lawful manner from those organisations bidding in relation to this tender and not for any other purpose. Ofwat feels that disclosure of third party data would breach this principle.

S41 – Information provided in confidence – This exemption applies because information contained within the tender document was supplied by the contractor for the purposes of supporting their tender bid. After consultation with the company Ofwat confirms that to disclose certain information could lead to an actionable breach of confidence by the contractor.

S43 – Commercial Interests –

Ofwat has considered the position of the commercial interest of the contractor and following consultation we have redacted any commercially sensitive information contained within the tender document.

Public Interest Test

This exemption is subject to a public interest test. There is a clear public interest in disclosing information that helps the public to understand the way a public authority works. Ofwat believes that the disclosure of any financial data relating to the contractor's commercial interest could lead to reputational damage for both parties and also affect the contractor's commercial activity for future tenders.

We therefore deem this exemption engaged.

If you have any queries or concerns with regard to the content of this email please contact me at Foi@ofwat.gsi.gov.uk

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, Ofwat may publish the response and any material released on our website in the [FOI disclosure section](#). Any personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing. We will hold the information in accordance with Ofwat's [retention and disposal schedule](#) which can be found in our Publication Scheme on our website.

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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

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

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/>

or

The Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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

Christine Manise

Senior Associate, Freedom of Information

Programme and Project Management

Ofwat

Centre City Tower

7 Hill Street

Birmingham B5 4UA