Freedom of Information request: 2018/0016

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 17th January 2019 in which you requested the following:

Your Request:

I would like to request the following information about the organisation’s Local Area Network (LAN) environment.

Please can you send me the organisation’s Local Area Network (LAN) contract, which may include the following:

- Support and Maintenance- e.g. switches, router, software etc.
- Managed- If this includes services than just LAN.

1. Contract Type: Managed or Maintenance
2. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
3. Annual Spend for each supplier: What is the annual average spending on the supplier above? If there is more than one supplier please split the annual averages spend for each supplier.
4. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
5. Number of Sites: The number of sites, where equipment is supported by each contract.
6. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
7. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
8. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.
9. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?
10. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?
11. Responsible Officer: Contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

If the LAN maintenance is included in-house please include the following information:

1. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
2. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
4. Responsible Officer: Who within the organisation is responsible for LAN please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

If the contract is managed by a 3rd party e.g. can you please provide me with:

1. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
2. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
4. Contract Type: Managed, Maintenance, Installation, Software
5. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
6. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
7. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.
8. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?
9. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?
10. Responsible Officer: Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contract(s) please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

Our response:

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation hold information relevant to your request.

UKRI has determined that the organisation’s Local Area Network (LAN) contracts contain information commercially sensitive to the suppliers and will therefore not be releasing copies of these documents. Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act, Commercial interests, has therefore been applied. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

Please find information relevant to the additional questions in your request below and on the “LAN contract” tab, within the attached spreadsheet “FOI 2019.0016 UKRI Response Table” as noted.

1. Contract Type: Managed or Maintenance
2. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
   Please refer to attached table

3. Annual Spend for each supplier: What is the annual average spending on the supplier above? If there is more than one supplier please split the annual averages spend for each supplier.

   UKRI has determined that this information is commercially sensitive and therefore Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act, Commercial interests, has been applied. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

   However in the interests of transparency we can provide the following information:
   The BT iNet contract in place for aspects of UKRI is in conjunction with the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) which encompasses multiple “arms-length bodies” within the public sector. We are therefore unable to determine an approximate figure for this supplier for UKRI alone.

   The contract with Dell is part of a wider contract, covering other aspects such as equipment and therefore we are unable to separate out the LAN yearly maintenance figures. The combined annual average spend for Vodafone, Bakers International, and Daisy is approximately £134k.
4. **Number of Users**: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.

5. **Number of Sites**: The number of sites, where equipment is supported by each contract. Please refer to the response to Question 3 above in relation to the BT iNet Contract and the table attached.

6. **Hardware Brand**: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment? This information has been withheld under Section 31(1)(a) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

7. **Contract Description**: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.

8. **Contract Duration**: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include?

9. **Contract Expiry Date**: When does the contract expire?

10. **Contract Review Date**: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract? Please refer to attached table.

11. **Responsible Officer**: Contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address? This information has been withheld under Section 40(2) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

Please find information relevant to your questions below and on the “LAN in-house” tab, within the attached spreadsheet “FOI 2019.0016 UKRI Response Table” as noted.

If the LAN maintenance is included in-house please include the following information:

1. **Hardware Brand**: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment? This information has been withheld under Section 31(1)(a) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

2. **Number of Users**: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.

3. **Number of Sites**: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers. Please refer to the response to Question 3 in the previous section in relation to the BT iNet Contract and the table attached.

4. **Responsible Officer**: Who within the organisation is responsible for LAN please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address? This information has been withheld under Section 40(2) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

Please find information relevant to your questions below and on the “LAN Managed by 3rd Party” tab, within the attached spreadsheet “FOI 2019.0016 UKRI Response Table” as noted.

If the contract is managed by a 3rd party e.g. can you please provide me with:

1. **Existing Supplier**: Who is the current supplier?

2. **Number of Users**: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
3. **Number of Sites:** Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
4. **Contract Type:** Managed, Maintenance, Installation, Software  
   Please refer to attached table

5. **Hardware Brand:** What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?  
   This information has been withheld under Section 31(1)(a) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

6. **Contract Description:** Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
7. **Contract Duration:** What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.
8. **Contract Expiry Date:** When does the contract expire?
9. **Contract Review Date:** When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?  
   Please refer to attached table

10. **Responsible Officer:** Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contract(s) please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?  
    This information has been withheld under Section 40(2) of the FOIA. Further explanation of the exemption applied is provided below.

**Application of exemptions**

**Section 40(2)**  
We are not obliged, under section 40(2) of the FOIA, to provide information that is the personal data of another person if releasing would contravene any of the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. In this instance we believe that the release of information would contravene the first data protection principle and therefore section 40(2) has been applied. The individuals concerned would not have an expectation that this information would be made publicly available. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and therefore a public interest test is not required.

**Section 31(1)(a)**  
Releasing the information requested regarding Local Area Networks for UKRI as noted above, would prejudice the prevention or detection of crime as per Section 31(1)(a) Freedom of Information Act. Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to a public interest test.

UKRI applied the Public Interest Test to this request as set out below;

**Public interest in favour of disclosure:**

- There is a public interest in favour of release of the information, to uphold the principles of transparency and accountability, in disclosing information about government or public authority infrastructure and contracts.
Public interest test in favour of withholding the information:

- The release of this information would make UKRI more vulnerable to crime
- The crime in question would be a malicious attack on UKRI's computer infrastructure and/or systems
- The release of this information would be seen to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime, by making UKRI's computer systems more vulnerable to hacking and therefore facilitate the possibility of a criminal offence being carried out
- There is an overwhelming public interest in keeping government or public authority computer systems secure, which would be served by non-disclosure.

UKRI has therefore reached the conclusion that, on balance, the public interest is better served by withholding the selected information under Section 31(1)(a).

Section 43(2)
Releasing UKRI's Local Area Network (LAN) contracts or disclosing expenditure on individual suppliers would constitute the disclosure of commercially sensitive information. Section 43 is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to a Public Interest Test. Our arguments are set out below:

Public interest in favour of disclosure:

- There is a general public interest in the disclosure of this information to ensure transparency and openness of a public organisation.
- There is also a public interest in the transparency in order to ensure accountability of public organisations and how they spend public money.

Public interest test in favour of withholding the information:

- Releasing information provided in confidence to UKRI is likely to damage the possibility of ongoing relationships with other organisations. Relationships may become untenable if third parties cannot be certain that their commercial information will remain confidential if it is held by UKRI
- Breaching the commercial interests may also adversely affect future negotiation opportunities for UKRI. UKRI may be seen as a 'confidentiality' risk if it routinely releases information relating to business arrangements in to the public domain, particularly where this is third party information.
- Contracts contain information commercially sensitive to the supplier, which if released may harm future commercial opportunities.
- Contracts contain information that the supplier would not anticipate UKRI releasing.

UKRI has reached the view that, on balance, the public interest is better served by withholding the selected information under section 43(2) of the FOI Act, Prejudice to Commercial Interests.

If you have any queries about this response please contact me, or if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, please write to:

Complaints Officer
UK Research and Innovation
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1FL
Email: foi@ukri.org
Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Enquiry/Information Line: Between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745
Further information about the Office of the Information Commissioner can be found at http://www.ico.gov.uk/

Yours sincerely,

UK Research and Innovation, Information Governance Team
Email: foi@ukri.org
1. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BT iNet</th>
<th>Vodafone</th>
<th>Bakers International</th>
<th>Dell</th>
<th>CAE</th>
<th>Daisy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BT iNet</th>
<th>Vodafone</th>
<th>Bakers International</th>
<th>Dell</th>
<th>CAE</th>
<th>Daisy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Contract Type: Managed or Maintenance?</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Managed</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?</td>
<td>BT iNet</td>
<td>Vodafone</td>
<td>Barkers International</td>
<td>Dell</td>
<td>CAE</td>
<td>Daisy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.</td>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>N/A - Contract is not based on number of users</td>
<td>N/A - Contract is not based on number of users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Number of Sites: The number of sites, where equipment is supported by each contract.</td>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.</td>
<td>Break Fix / Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Support &amp; maintenance</td>
<td>Support &amp; maintenance</td>
<td>Standard maintenance contract</td>
<td>Support &amp; maintenance for all LAN Hardware</td>
</tr>
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<td>8. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.</td>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>Annual &amp; Tri-annual</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?</td>
<td>Currently Under Review</td>
<td>Jul-20</td>
<td>Aug-19</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>No date set</td>
<td>May-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Answer</td>
<td></td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?</td>
<td>Barkers International</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Contract Type: Managed, Maintenance, Installation, Software</td>
<td>Managed</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.</td>
<td>Support &amp; maintenance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?</td>
<td>Sep-19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?</td>
<td>Aug-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>