

8th October 2018

## **Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20181699**

### **REQUEST**

*This is a request for information that relates to the organisation's contracts around ICT contract(s) for Server Hardware Maintenance, Server Virtualisation Licenses and Maintenance and Storage Area Network (SAN) Maintenance/Support, which may include:*

- *Server Hardware Maintenance- contracts relating to the support and maintenance of the organisation's physical servers.*
- *Virtualisation Maintenance/Support/ Licensing (VMware, Solaris, Unix, Linux, Windows Server)*
- *Storage Area Network Maintenance/Support (EMC, NetApp etc)*

*For each of the type of contract described above, please can you provide me with the following data. If there is more than one contract please split the information for each separate supplier this includes annual spend*

1. **Contract Title:** *Please provide me with the contract title.*
2. **Type of Contracts (ABOVE):** *Please can you provide me with one or more contract types the contract relate to: Server Hardware, Virtualisation, SAN (Storage Area Network)*
3. **Existing/Current Supplier:** *Please provide me with the supplier name for each contract.*
4. **Brand:** *Please state the brand of hardware or software*
5. **Operating System / Software (Platform):** *(Windows, Linux, Unix, Vsphere, AIX, Solaris etc.) Please state the operating system used by the organisation.*
6. **Annual Average Spend:** *Please provide me with the most recent annual spend for this contract?*
7. **Contract Duration:** *(Please can you also include notes if the contract includes any contract Extension periods.)*
8. **Contract Expiry Date:** *Please can you provide me with the date of when the contract expires.*
9. **Contract Review Date:** *(An approximate date of when the organisation is planning to review this particular contract.)*
10. **Purchase of Servers:** *Could you please provide me with the month and year in which most/bulk of servers were purchased.*
11. **Number of Physical Server:** *Please can you provide me with the number of physical servers.*
12. **Number of Virtual Servers:** *Please can you provide me with the number of Virtual servers' servers.*
13. **Brief Contract Description:** *I require a brief description of the service provided under this contract. Please do not just put maintenance I need at least a sentence.*

14. **Contract Owner:** (The person from within the organisation that is responsible for reviewing and renewing this particular contract. Please include their full name, job title, direct contact number and direct email address.)

If this service is part of a managed contract please can you send me the contract information for this managed service including Hardware Brand, Number of Users, Operating System, and contact details of the internal contact responsible for this contract

## RESPONSE

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemptions applicable to your request falls under the following exemptions:

### **Section 43 – Commercial Interests**

#### **Harm**

When a disclosure is made under the Freedom of Information Act, it is a disclosure to the world via a forces publication scheme and not to a single individual. In view of this, we may publish all information released under the Freedom of Information Act on our website in order that any member of the public who may wish to view the information can have access to it.

In relation to Question 11 - Releasing information about the number of servers has been reassessed and deemed to be commercially sensitive. Such disclosure would undermine the confidence of any current or future supplier to South Yorkshire Police and providing a budget may affect competitive tendering.

#### **Public Interest Test**

##### Section 43 – Factors favouring disclosure

- Increased awareness of how South Yorkshire Police use public funds when entering into contracts with third parties.
- Public understanding of IT budgets and contracts and the amount we have to pay our suppliers.

##### Section 43 – Factors favouring non-disclosure

- Releasing SYP server information doesn't encourage a competitive market and may enable approximations of price.
- Giving this information out may undermine the competitive advantage of a supplier therefore suppliers would not be starting from a level playing field.

#### **On Balance**

I have considered your request for information. The key test when considering the public interest is to establish whether in all the circumstances of the request, the public interest in disclosing the information is not outweighed by that in maintaining the exemption.

For Question 11. On the reassessment of this particular part of the request, the IT department believe the release of this point-

*“may enable an approximation of price, which would be commercially sensitive”*

This may mean that SYP would not be able to achieve the best value from our suppliers, consequently the general public would not have value for money. This would be because some suppliers within the tendering process may not have had access to the information. I am of the opinion, following advice from a contact within this business area that to provide full information would damage the confidence suppliers have in our authority, in respects to the negotiating of contracts, or indeed any further contracts in the future.

It is therefore my opinion that releasing the information in full may engaged the above exemption. However the attached spreadsheet contains further data provided by the IT Asset & Technical Commercial Manager which is an update of your previous requests in December 2016.