

5 November 2024

FOI Ref 17336

**Request - You asked us the following:**

The name of the current Duty Management System (DMS) in place?

- o The year this system was implemented?
- o The expiry date of your current DMS contract?
- o Actual spend on this contract, from the start of the contract to the current date: (total cost incurred on this contract from its start date to the current date, including details of the contract's duration (years covered) and the cost for any renewals)?

Details of the Human Resource Management System (HRMS) your organisation uses?

We received your request on 08/10/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:

**Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.**

- The name of the current Duty Management System (DMS) in place? – **Disclosed, Origin.**
- The year this system was implemented? – **Disclosed, 2012.**
- The expiry date of your current DMS contract? – **Disclosed, 8th November 2027.**
- Actual spend on this contract, from the start of the contract to the current date: (total cost incurred on this contract from its start date to the current date, including details of the contract's duration (years covered) and the cost for any renewals)?- **Withheld.**
- Details of the Human Resource Management System (HRMS) your organisation uses? – **Disclosed, Origin.**

**The following exemptions have been applied:**

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for parts of this particular request.

- Section 43(2) Commercial Interests

This is a prejudice based qualified exemption which means there is a requirement to provide evidence of harm and a public interest test needs to be considered.

**Harm:**

The contract information relating to Origin, if released into the public domain, would harm Staffordshire Police's negotiating position with regards to future contracts for equipment or services. There are commercially confidential clauses within the Origin contract which are not permitted to be shared to the wider public.

**Public Interest Test****Factors favouring disclosure under Section 43(2)**

Disclosure of the requested information would allow the public to be aware of how public funds are spent or allocated and thereby would provide transparency and accountability, showing that funds from the public purse are used appropriately and proportionally.

**Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 43(2)**

Through disclosure of the requested information, Staffordshire Police would find that its negotiating position would be greatly impaired through the release of details that would not only likely be prejudicial to Staffordshire Police but also to the agencies/companies involved. Releasing this information would be expected to have a detrimental effect on their ability to be competitive in the future and would be exceedingly likely to deter further enterprises submitting offers for tender in the future. This then would impede Staffordshire Police obtaining the most competitive or appropriate services in the future and negatively impact upon the public purse.

**Balance test**

It is the responsibility of Staffordshire Police, when dealing with commercial businesses, to not only protect their commercial interest but also that of Staffordshire Police. Commercial interests must be protected so that the best possible value for money is obtained through open competition, both for businesses and Staffordshire Police. This would not be achieved if full details were to be made available to the market. Although the use of public funds must be open and transparent, Staffordshire Police is accountable for the money that it spends and utilizes and if to release the information means the force is unable to negotiate future tendering and have the ability to secure value for money due to business relationships have been impaired, then this would not be in the public interest.

Having considered the public interest test factors, we are required to determine whether, on balance, the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour withholding the details. Therefore, Staffordshire Police declines to provide the information for the reasons stated above.

**Next steps**

You can ask us to review our response.

If you would like us to carry out a review of our response, please let us know within two months of the date of receipt of this email, review requests should be addressed to:



STAFFORDSHIRE  
**POLICE**

[foi@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:foi@staffordshire.police.uk)

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit  
Staffordshire Police HQ  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Freedom of Information  
Central Disclosure Unit