

4 September 2025

FOI Ref 21791

Request - You asked us the following:

I am a third year student studying politics. As part of my dissertation I am researching procurement practices within the UK. I am therefore writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding contracts awarded by your organisation.

Please focus on contracts awarded aligning these codes 90910000 - Cleaning services and 90911200 - Building-cleaning services.

1. What is the total value of the contract awarded to the successful bidder?
2. What is the duration of the contract, including start and end dates?
3. If the contract is subject to an extension please specify whether the option to apply the extension has been taken.
4. Please confirm when contract will be next put to competitor tender
5. What are the specific services or products provided under this contract?
6. What were the criteria used to select the contractor?
7. How many bids were received for this contract?
8. Who won the contract and can you provide a copy of the winning bid proposal?

We received your request on 27/08/2025 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.

- 1. What is the total value of the contract awarded to the successful bidder? – **Withheld, please see below. Please also note that there is no single contract for building cleaning services as this is managed under our Total Facilities Management contract.**
- 2. What is the duration of the contract, including start and end dates? – **Withheld, please see below.**
- 3. If the contract is subject to an extension please specify whether the option to apply the extension has been taken. – **Withheld, please see below.**
- 4. Please confirm when contract will be next put to competitor tender – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21791 Building Cleaning Services Data.xlsx'.**

- 5. What are the specific services or products provided under this contract? – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21791 Building Cleaning Services Data.xlsx'.**
- 6. What were the criteria used to select the contractor? – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21791 Building Cleaning Services Data.xlsx'.**
- 7. How many bids were received for this contract – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21791 Building Cleaning Services Data.xlsx'.**
- 8. Who won the contract and can you provide a copy of the winning bid proposal? – **Withheld, please see below.**

Please note that we have included information relating to the contract for Total Facilities Management as it is a live contract, even though it was awarded prior to 2020.

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 21(1) - Information reasonably accessible by other means.

Section 21 is an absolute, class-based exemption and as such there is no requirement to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure, nor is there a requirement to perform a Public Interest Test.

- 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 information relating to the winning bid proposal if released into the public domain, would harm Staffordshire Police's negotiating position with regards to future contracts and proposal contracts for services. There are commercially confidential clauses within the facilities management and cleaning contracts 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 utilises 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 having 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.

Advice and assistance

In order to comply with our obligations under Section 16 of the Act, the obligation to provide advice and assistance, please find below links to the information requested.

- <https://sell2.in-tend.co.uk/blpd/view-contract?secureid=a419b31a-cefc-430c-a895-4629ceb4a38d>
- <https://sell2.in-tend.co.uk/blpd/view-contract?secureid=bc59926c-753a-4685-bcf7-aba2376a5dc3>

Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the Staffordshire Police website although personal details are not included.

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Staffordshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing within two months of the date of receipt of this email, and should be addressed to:



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

foi@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Information Access Team
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Information Access Team within two months of the Force's response to the original FOI request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing. The review will be conducted by a Supervisor who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Information Access Team will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within 20 working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The independent Supervisor will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Supervisor will reply to the appellant with the result of the review. If the appellant is still dissatisfied following the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team