

INFORMATION RELEASED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Information released title	ICT documents
Original request	<p>I would like to submit a freedom of information request for the following document relating to the following:</p> <p>Most up to date ICT Documents</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ICT Strategy- I require the document that hold future plan and strategy of the organisation's ICT department. 2. ICT Departmental Business Plan 3. ICT Technical Strategy 4. ICT Structure 5. ICT Capital budgets and programmes <p>If you feel that your organisation or the department hold other documents that relate to my request or the document above please send them accordingly.</p> <p>Lead member: Cabinet Member for ICT and Telecommunications come under? Please can you provide me with their direct contact details including their Full Name, Actual Job Title, Contact Number and Direct Email Address?</p>
Date of release	27.03.2015
Requester type	Individual

Information released:

- 1 - 3 The UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES) is currently developing its 2015/16 business plan, which will set out its business objectives for the forthcoming year. When this overarching document has been agreed, it will underpin all IT activities to be undertaken in support of the delivery of the business plan. At present, therefore, I can confirm that the information requested is not held.

UKCES holds a technical plan which steers its protective security. However, as you may be aware, in some circumstances, certain types of information requested may be withheld under an exemption or exemptions articulated in the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In this instance, we are withholding the information because we consider that Exemption 31(1)(a) of the FOIA applies to it.

Exemption 31(1)(a)

*Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—
(a) the prevention or detection of crime.*

The Information Commissioner's Office 'exemption for law enforcement' guidance explains that security of IT systems is likely to be covered by the exemption for general law enforcement activities referred to in S.31(1). We believe disclosure of information about our servers and systems is likely to pose a threat to the UK Commission's IT security.

The UK Commission recognises that there is a public interest in promoting public understanding of how the organisation protects its assets and in providing assurance that it is taking steps to prevent unauthorised access to its systems. However, it is also our view that there is a strong public interest in maintaining its protective security arrangements, enabling it to meet its statutory duties and securing its assets. We believe that this public interest outweighs the arguments in favour of transparency.

- 4 Please find on p. 4 a chart that describes the structure of the ICT and security function at UKCES. The organisation's ICT function forms part of its Business Services Team, which provides specialist communications, IT, finance, HR, procurement, governance and Commissioner support expertise to the objectives and to support the organisation as a whole. Please also see page 11 of [UKCES' Business Plan 2014/15](#) to gain an understanding of the organisation's wider structure.
- 5 The UK Commission's overall budget for 2015/16 will be set out in its Grant-in-Aid letter, which the organisation is currently awaiting. This will outline the total resource allocation for the organisation and will aid planning of spending on IT in the forthcoming year. Therefore I can advise at present that this information is still to be

agreed with the UK Commission's sponsor department.

Please also see the organisation's [2014/15 Business Plan](#) which sets out the funding levels for 2014/15. We also publish [transparency data on spending](#), which may be of interest.

- 6 We would welcome some clarification on the information requested relating to the 'Lead member: Cabinet Member for ICT and Communications'. The UK Commission is a Non-Departmental Public Body with a governance structure that is distinct from the cabinet model adopted by local government.

UKCES ICT and security function: Organisational structure

