

FCO Services King Charles Street London SW1A 2AH

Website: https://www.gov.uk

16 April 2019

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: Fol 0203-19

Thank you for your email of 20th February 2019 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from FCO SERVICES.

Please can you provide a copy of the awarded bid for "Cloud Computing Services".

I look forward to your response within 20 working days, as stipulated by the Act.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be happy to clarify what I am asking for, my details are outlined below.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested. I can confirm that FCO Services does hold information relevant to your request.

The information held by FCO Services is exempt under Section 43 (2) of the Act, which relates to commercial interests. The use of this exemption was carefully considered. The factors in favour of disclosure of this information, including the general public interest and greater transparency and accountability, were carefully weighed against the need to allow business-people and commercial organisations the space to conduct their lawful business competitively and without fear of disclosure of sensitive commercial information. We consider that this transparency also poses risks to the protection of commercially confidential information. Failure to protect such commercially sensitive information would limit the sources of information and interlocutors available to FCO Services. In this case after such consideration we believe that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in its release.

The title and the cost of contracts awarded by FCO Services are published on Contract Finder.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on gov.uk in the

<u>FOI releases</u> section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Most documents supplied by the FCO will have been produced by government officials and will be protected by Crown Copyright. To re-use Crown Copyright documents please consult the Open Government Licence v3 on the National Archives website.

Information you receive which is not subject to Crown Copyright continues to be protected by the copyright of the person, or organisation, from which the information originated. You must ensure that you gain their permission before reproducing any third party (non-Crown Copyright) information.

If you would like a review of our decision, or if you wish to make a complaint, please write to the Central FOI Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk. You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

You can apply directly to the Information Commissioner. However, the Information Commissioner will not normally make a decision unless you have first exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Officer

FCO Services



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.