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Redacted
By email Redacted

Our ref: FOI2021/24339
19 October 2021

Dear Redacted,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Printers for the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)

Thank you for your request for information of 1 October 2021 about printers for the APHA. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

1. *Who is your preferred supplier for MFD/Printer Hardware? (Please state in multiple suppliers)*

We can confirm that Xerox are our preferred suppliers for MFD/Printer Hardware.

2. *Please state the number of printers currently within the organisation, to include a breakdown of MFDs (multi-functional devices), Print Room devices and desktop printers.*

We can confirm that only networked printers are provided through the MPS Contract, desktop printers are provided through another route:

Large MFDs: 239

Medium MFDs: 429

Small MFDs: 222

Specialist Printing Devices (including Plotters): 91

3. *What are your current annual page volumes (split by Colour and Mono)*

Impression figures for the 12 months to the end of September 2021 are:

2,654,394 colour pages

5,809,152 mono pages



4. *What is the approximate annual spend for both hardware and services?*

Following careful consideration, the information in relation to the spend for both hardware and services is being withheld as it falls under the exemption at section 43(2) of the FOIA, which relates to information which if disclosed would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding the information). In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosure of information concerning spend to facilitate accountability, transparency, and fairness in the procurement and management of public contracts. However, on the other hand, there are considerable factors in favour of withholding this information, in particular to release it would adversely affect the Defra's ability to achieve the most economical and advantageous tender bid in relation to the use of public funds when negotiating future contracts. As a Government department it is vital that Defra is able to obtain value for money when it comes to the public purse. Disclosure of this information could also potentially compromise and weaken the ability of the incumbent supplier to participate competitively in a future commercial activity as their competitors could use this information to create an unfair commercial advantage. Therefore, we have concluded that, in all the circumstances of the case, the information should be withheld.

5. *What date is your contract due for renewal ?*

We can confirm that the contract is due for renewal in Q1 2023 (with the option of 2 x 12 month extensions).

6. *Which procurement route or framework was used to procure this service?*

We can confirm that OJEU CPN was used to procure this service.

7. *Which person/role is responsible for procuring your printer contracts?*

We can confirm that Defra Group Commercial Team is responsible for procuring our printer contracts.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Redacted
Information Rights Team

InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights via email at InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted using the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>