

Date: 20 July 2023 Our Ref: RFI4374 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI4374

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, the information requested below.

The details we require are:

- 1) Do you use a social media management platform?
- 2) If so, what tools do you use?
- 3) How much do you spend annually on a Social media management tool?
- 4) Which month & year does your contract with your supplier end?
- 5) Do you use a social listening / media monitoring platform?
- 6) If so, what tools do you use?
- 7) How much do you spend annually on a social listening / media monitoring tool?
- 8) Which month & year does your contract with your supplier end?
- 9) Who is the senior officer in charge of these contracts?

Response

We can confirm that we do hold some of the requested information. We will address your queries in turn.

1) Do you use a social media management platform?

We can confirm that we do use a social media management platform.

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2) If so, what tools do you use?

We use the Sprout Social platform.

- **3)** How much do you spend annually on a Social media management tool? We can confirm that the annual cost is \$19,979.40.
- 4) Which month & year does your contract with your supplier end? Our current contact ends in October 2023.
- 5) Do you use a social listening / media monitoring platform?
- 6) If so, what tools do you use?
- 7) How much do you spend annually on a social listening / media monitoring tool?
- 8) Which month & year does your contract with your supplier end?We can confirm that the same social media management platform is used, as detailed above.
- 9) Who is the senior officer in charge of these contracts?

We can inform you that we do hold the information that you have requested. However, we rely on Section 40 (2) of the FOIA to withhold the information from disclosure.

Section 40 – Personal information

We are withholding information on the grounds that in constitutes third party personal data and therefore engages section 40(2) of the FOIA.

To disclose personal data, such as names, contact details, addresses, email addresses and personal opinions could lead to the identification of third parties and would breach one or more of the data protection principles.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption which means that we do not need to consider the public interest in disclosure. Once it is established that the information is personal data of a third party and release would breach one or more of the data protection principles, then the exemption is engaged.

The full text in the legislation can be found on the following link: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/40</u>

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Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. To comply with this duty we are able to confirm that the relevant team responsible for managing the social media management contract are procurement and they can be contacted via our general enquires team via the following methods:

Email: <u>enquires@homesengland.gov.uk</u> Telephone: 0300 1234 500

Right to Appeal

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an internal review. You can request an internal review by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

Information Governance Team Homes England Windsor House 6th Floor 42-50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL United Kingdom

Your request for review must be made in writing, explain why you wish to appeal, and be received within 40 working days of the date of this response. Failure to meet this criteria may lead to your request being refused.

Upon receipt, your request for review will be passed to an independent party not involved in your original request. We aim to issue a response within 20 working days.

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You may also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.

The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link:

https://ico.org.uk/

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

The Information Governance Team For Homes England

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