

Date: 24 May 2024 Our Ref: RFI4728 Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI4728

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:

Telephony and storage

- 1. Telephony and UC/ Collaboration
- a. Please confirm the manufacturer of your telephony system(s) that are currently in place
- b. When is your contract renewal date?
- c. Who maintains your telephony system(s)?
- d. Do you use Unified Communications or Collaboration tools, if so which ones?
- 2. Microsoft
- a) What Microsoft 365 licence do you have across the business e.g. E3, E5
- b) Which partner looks after your Microsoft tenant?
- c) Where do you host your applications? Do you have on-premise infrastructure or do you host your applications in public or private cloud? Which?
- 3. Storage
- a. Does your organisation use on-premise or cloud storage or both?
- b. Please confirm the on-premise hardware manufacturer
- c. Please confirm your cloud storage provider
- d. What is your annual spend on cloud storage?
- e. How do you back up your data and with who e.g. Backup as a Service

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Response

We can inform you that we do hold the information that you have requested. However, we rely on section 21, exemption where information is available to the applicant elsewhere.

The full text of the legislation can be found on the following link and we have quoted section 21 below for ease.

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/21

Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means.

- (1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—
 (a)information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and
 (b)information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. We can confirm that this request is a follow-up request to a previous FOI request (our ref 'RFI4234') and that there have been no updates since our previous response. A copy of the response to RFI4234 is publicly available on Homes England's disclosure log via our gov.uk website. For ease, the link is as follows:

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https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/homes-england-disclosure-log#homes-england-rfi-releases-for-2023 and the response can be found in Homes England RFI releases for March 2023.

1b. When is your contract renewal date?

Please note that contained within the previous response to RFI4234, we confirmed that the renewal date for the contract was May 2023. We can confirm that the contract was renewed for a period of 3 years from April 2023 to April 2026.

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.

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.

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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

6th Floor Windsor House 42 - 50 Victoria Street, Westminster London, SW1H 0TL

