

Date: 28 May 2024 Our Ref: RFI4729 Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk



Dear



## RE: Request for Information – RFI4729

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:

## Homes England Property and Financial Professional Services Framework 2022-2026:

https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.find-tender.service.gov.uk%2FNotice%2F016677-

 $\frac{2022\&data=05\%7C02\%7Cinfogov\%40homesengland.gov.uk\%7Cd612ae610ff743f47d3f08dc6604daf0\%7Cf}{aa8e2690811453882e74d29009219bf\%7C0\%7C0\%7C638497418243283292\%7CUnknown\%7CTWFpbGZsb}\\ \frac{3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0\%3D\%7C0\%7C\%7C\%7C\&sdat}{a=WEYsB1KA\%2FTR3pry\%2BNMSfo5Fg3tH2Io5JHI3FIL53QNU%3D\&reserved=0$ 

### The details we require are:

- Actual spend on this framework, from the start of the contract to the current date
- Start date & duration of framework/contract?
- Is there an extension clause in the framework and, if so, the duration of the extension?
- Has a decision been made yet on whether the framework will be either extended or renewed?
- Please can you provide a breakdown of all awards off the framework for each lot, awarded supplier, description of award and value for each awarded contract.

## Response

We can inform you that we do hold the information that you have requested. We will address each of your questions in turn.

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





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- Actual spend on this framework, from the start of the contract to the current date We can confirm that the actual spend to date (as at 26 April 2024) is £25,879,066.
- Has a decision been made yet on whether the framework will be either extended or renewed? We can confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request.

To conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Commercial team who would have the requested information if held.

The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty under section 1(1) is only to provide the recorded information held.

The full text of section 1 in the legislation can be found here:

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/1

#### **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 no decision has been made to date and that this will only be decided closer to the end date of the current framework.

- Start date & duration of framework/contract?
- Is there an extension clause in the framework and, if so, the duration of the extension?
- Please can you provide a breakdown of all awards off the framework for each lot, awarded supplier, description of award and value for each awarded contract.

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

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<u>Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means.</u>

- (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. As such, we can advise that some of this information is available on our gov.uk website via the following link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/homes-england-property-and-financial-professional-services-framework-2022-to-2026">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/homes-england-property-and-financial-professional-services-framework-2022-to-2026</a>.

Information in relation to the breakdown of awards for each lot, awarded supplier, description of award and value for each awarded contract can be found on 'Find a Tender' on our gov.uk website using the below link under the reference number **DN562720**.

https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Search

## 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.

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Information Governance Team Homes England Windsor House 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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