

Reference: 2025-073

Thank you for your email in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

We request under FOIA that you provide the following information in respect of suppliers which were not paid in within 30 days for the period starting 1 April 2019 to the date of this request:

- 1. Supplier Name**
- 2. Invoice Date**
- 3. Gross Invoice Value**
- 4. Payment Date**
- 5. Late Payment Compensation or Interest Paid (if any)**

Response

Please see below our response to your questions in the order asked.

Question 1

The information we hold is commercially sensitive and therefore engages section 43 (2) of the FOIA.

Section 43(2) of the FOIA deals with commercial interests and provides that:

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

How the exemption is engaged

The requested information could detriment to the SFO's commercial interests if released by weakening its negotiating position with future suppliers. It could also detriment the commercial interests of the supplier when engaging future clients. As such, this information is exempt from release under section 43(2) of the FOIA.

Public interest test

Section 43 of FOIA is a qualified exemption. As such, it requires consideration of whether the public interest in exempting the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing whether the public authority holds the information. More information about exemptions in general and the public interest test is available on the ICO's website at www.ico.org.uk.

We understand the importance of publicising information about the SFO's use of public resources and funding. However, we do not believe that the release of that information which we hold would add significantly to these factors and therefore feel there is minimal public interest in releasing this material. Further, as outlined above, the SFO is compliant with the reporting requirements across government, which requires the publication of data surrounding procurement processes on the Contracts Finder website: [Contracts Finder - GOV.UK](https://contractsfinder.gov.uk).

We have therefore concluded that the balance of the public interest is in favour of not disclosing the information requested as the commercial interests weigh in favour of not sharing this detail externally.

Questions 2, 3, 4, 5

Invoice Date	Gross Invoice Value	Payment Date	Late Payment Compensation or Interest
01/03/2020	4,756.95	01/05/2020	12.00
01/12/2020	178.92	01/02/2020	12.00
01/10/2023	3,557.27	01/12/2023	12.00
01/11/2023	2,048.55	01/01/2024	12.00
01/12/2023	3,657.20	01/03/2024	12.00
01/01/2024	2,436.48	01/03/2025	12.00
01/04/2024	2,247.66	01/07/2024	12.00
01/05/2024	5,979.78	01/08/2024	12.00
01/06/2024	5,776.28	01/08/2024	12.00
01/10/2024	7,929.84	01/12/2024	12.00
01/01/2025	5,927.97	01/03/2025	12.00
	44,496.90		132.00