



The Insolvency  
Service

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[REDACTED]  
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Our ref: FOI25/26152  
Date: 8 October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request**

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2025 in which you requested from the Insolvency Service (the agency):

*“Government procurement policies PPN018, PPN 021, and the guidance laid out at laid out at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/prompt-payment-policy> set out how payment approaches should be taken into account in the procurement of major government contracts.*

*These rules apply to the major contracts of central government departments, their executive agencies and non-departmental public bodies.*

*Importantly, the rules state that “any supplier bidding for a central government contract above £5 million per year has needed to demonstrate that they have effective payment systems”. For suppliers to have an effective payment system they must demonstrate that: “95% of invoices in their supply chain are paid within 60 days and that they pay their invoices within an average of 55 days or fewer.”*

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information:*

**Question 1**

*As part of your tendering and procurement processes, the total number of bidders excluded - in financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to date (September 2025, as the most recent quarter for which data is held) - from public procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies mentioned above.*

*If providing the data for all three years would exceed the cost limit, please provide whichever years are available within the limit.*

*If a bid was excluded for multiple reasons, and poor payment practices is one of the tracked reasons, please include this in the total number.*

**Question 2**

*Provide the total number of bidders who have been asked to provide a detailed action plan outlining the steps to get back into compliance with payment performance policies mentioned above, in financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to date. If providing the data for all three years would exceed the cost limit, please provide whichever years are available within the limit.*

#### **Question 3**

*Provide a list of names of the organisations which have been excluded from central government procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies mentioned above. If providing all organisation names would exceed the cost limit, please provide up to the first 10. If a bid was excluded for multiple reasons, and poor payment practices is one of the tracked reasons, please include this in the list.*

*There is a clear and compelling public interest in the disclosure of this information. Given the large amounts of taxpayer money at stake, the public has a right to know how these funds are invested and whether the systems in place are effective. Government policy sets a basic standard of conduct for organisations receiving public funds, concerning their payment practices to suppliers in their supply chain. It is therefore in the public interest to understand which organisations are successfully meeting this standard, and, equally, which organisations that attempt to access state contracts fail to meet the criteria."*

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm the agency holds the information that you have requested, and I have provided answers to your questions below.

#### **Question 1**

**As part of your tendering and procurement processes, the total number of bidders excluded - in financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to date (September 2025, as the most recent quarter for which data is held) - from public procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies mentioned above.**

**If providing the data for all three years would exceed the cost limit, please provide whichever years are available within the limit.**

**If a bid was excluded for multiple reasons, and poor payment practices is one of the tracked reasons, please include this in the total number.**

#### **Answer:**

0 (zero) – there were zero bidders excluded during the time frame stated, from public procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies mentioned above.

#### **Question 2**

**Provide the total number of bidders who have been asked to provide a detailed action plan outlining the steps to get back into compliance with payment performance policies mentioned above, in financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to date. If providing the data for all three years would exceed the cost limit, please provide whichever years are available within the limit.**

#### **Answer:**

0 (zero) bidders have been asked to provide a detailed action plan (no payment performance issues identified) for the time frame stated.

#### **Question 3**

**Provide a list of names of the organisations which have been excluded from central government procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies mentioned above. If providing all organisation names would exceed the cost limit, please provide up to the first 10. If a bid was excluded for multiple reasons, and poor payment practices is one of the tracked reasons, please include this in the list.**

**Answer:**

0 (zero) organisations have been excluded from central government procurement processes for contracts valued over £5 million per annum due to non-compliance with the prompt payment policies.

**Complaints**

If you are not satisfied with the response we have provided to you and would like us to reconsider our decision by way of an internal review (IR), please contact our Information Rights team within 40 working days of this letter at [foi@insolvency.gov.uk](mailto:foi@insolvency.gov.uk) or by post at:

Information Rights Team  
The Insolvency Service  
3rd Floor  
Cannon House  
18 Priory Queensway  
Birmingham  
B4 6FD  
United Kingdom

You also have the right to contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if you wish for them to investigate any complaint you may have regarding our handling of your request. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect an IR to have been completed in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Team  
The Insolvency Service

The Department for Business and Trade, Official Receivers and the Adjudicator are Data Controllers in respect of personal data processed by the Insolvency Service. For the details about how personal data is processed by the agency, please see the full Insolvency Service Personal Information Charter here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service/about/personal-information-charter>