

FOI-352

[REDACTED]
Sent via email only:

29 November 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 12 September 2022 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the 'Act'). Specifically, you asked for the following information:

"Connectivity and Network Services"

- a. Who provides your WAN and internet connectivity and the annual spend on each*
- b. Who provides your SIP trunks and what is the annual spend*
- c. Who provides your WAN services, is this MPLS, SD WAN or Internet, and what is the annual spend*
- d. Who provides your LAN infrastructure and what is your annual spend*
- e. Who provides your WIFI infrastructure and what is your annual spend*
- f. Please confirm the manufacturer(s) of your wired network core and edge switching?*
- g. When was your core network installed?*
- h. Has it been updated subsequently?*
- i. Who maintains your core network?*
- j. When is the contract renewal date?*
- k. Please confirm value of the initial project?*

- I. *Please confirm the value of annual support/maintenance services (in £)?”*

Summary of Response

2. UKAD confirms that it holds material relevant to your request and is disclosing some of that material as set out at paragraph 4 below.
3. As more particularly explained below, certain information that UKAD holds is not being disclosed because that information falls to be exempt by virtue of Section 43 of the Act. Further details as to the application of that exemption are set out at paragraph 5 below.

Response

4. The responses to your questions are set out below.

Question a **Who provides your WAN and internet connectivity and the annual spend on each?**

Response WAN: Koris365
Internet connectivity: Koris365
Annual spend is withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act.
Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details.

Question b **Who provides your SIP trunks and what is the annual spend?**

Response Koris365
Annual spend is withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act.
Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

Question c **Who provides your WAN services, is this MPLS, SD WAN or Internet, and what is the annual spend?**

Response Koris365
Annual spend is withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act.
Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

Question d **Who provides your LAN infrastructure and what is your annual spend?**

Response Koris365
Annual spend is withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act.
Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

Question e Who provides your WIFI infrastructure and what is your annual spend

Response Koris365
Annual spend is withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act.
Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

Question f Please confirm the manufacturer(s) of your wired network core and edge switching?

Response Cisco

Question g When was your core network installed?

Response March 2021

Question h Has it been updated subsequently?

Response Yes

Question i Who maintains your core network?

Response Koris365

Question j When is the contract renewal date?

Response 26 February 2024

Question k Please confirm value of the initial project?

Response Withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act. Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

Question l Please confirm the value of annual support/maintenance services (in £)?

Response Withheld on the basis of Section 43 of the Act. Please see paragraph 5 to 12 below for further details

5. As to the information withheld at paragraph 4 above, UKAD considers that the exemption in Section 43 of the Act applies to this information and that the information is not disclosable.

6. Section 43(2) of the Act provides as follows:

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).

7. UKAD considers that certain terms of the contracts between UKAD and Koris365 are exempt from disclosure because disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both UKAD and Koris365.

8. In particular, revealing such commercially sensitive information about the pricing of the services would be likely to place Koris365 at a disadvantage in future negotiations with both UKAD and other organisations. Likewise, it would likely adversely affect UKAD's bargaining position in any future negotiations for these types of services and result in less competitive tender applications being made. Disclosing such information would also be likely to deter other companies from contracting with UKAD (and other public authorities) in the future, undermining UKAD's ability to obtain value for money in future contracts.

9. Having determined the prejudice that would likely arise from disclosing the pricing of services, UKAD has gone on to consider whether the public interest test requires disclosure of this information.

10. UKAD recognises the public interest in public authorities being transparent and accountable, particularly in relation to expenditure of public funds. UKAD also recognises that it is in the public interest to ensure that the authorities are obtaining value for money, and that disclosing the cost of the services would allow the public to undertake such an evaluation.

11. However, there is also the public interest in fairness of competition and in ensuring that the ability of public authorities to obtain value for money is not undermined.

Disclosure of fees paid to Koris365 would be likely to damage its ability to compete on a level playing field and cause fair competition to be reduced, simply because it has contracted with a public authority. As a result, the risk arises that fewer companies may be willing to contract with UKAD, undermining UKAD's ability to obtain value for money in its future expenditure of public funds.

12. Having considered the public interest arguments both for and against maintaining the exemption, UKAD has concluded that the balance of the public interests falls in favour of non-disclosure in this instance.

Conclusion

13. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of this response via email to foi@ukad.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.
14. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "UK Anti-Doping".

UK Anti-Doping

