

Official

Ms [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: FOI-281

21 September 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 13 July 2020 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

Specifically, your request was as follows:

1. *How many people are employed by your organisation, including full time and part time?*

Response: 75.

2. *What is your current intranet solution? (Sharepoint, Wordpress, Invotra etc)*

Response: Sharepoint.

3. *How long have you been using this intranet solution?*

Response: Around 10 years, in various iterations.

4. *When is your intranet contract up for renewal?*

Response: Our intranet contract is up for renewal annually.

5. *What is your annual intranet budget?*

Response: UKAD confirms that it holds the information requested. However, we are withholding this information under the exemption provided in section 43 of the Act on the grounds that releasing the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both UKAD and a third party (SharePoint).

Section 43(2) of the Act provides as follow:

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).

UKAD has concluded that information about the budget for its intranet solution is exempt from disclosure because to do so would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both UKAD and SharePoint. This is because revealing such commercially sensitive information to SharePoint's competitors would be likely to place SharePoint at a disadvantage in future negotiations with both UKAD and other organisations; specifically, disclosing the company's pricing structure could enable competitors to undercut SharePoint in the future.

Likewise, revealing the fees paid by UKAD would likely adversely affect UKAD's bargaining position in any future negotiations for its intranet contract 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.

Having determined the prejudice that would likely arise from disclosing the cost of UKAD's intranet solution, UKAD has gone on to consider whether the public interest test requires disclosure of this information.

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 authorities are obtaining value for money, and that disclosing the cost of UKAD's intranet contract would allow the public to undertake such an evaluation.

Conversely, 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 SharePoint would be likely to damage its ability to compete on a level playing field and cause fair competition to be reduced, simply because SharePoint has contracted with a public authority. As a result, the risk arises that fewer companies may be willing to contract with UKAD and that less competitive tender applications will be made, undermining UKAD's ability to obtain value for money in its future expenditure of public funds.

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.

6. *Do you share an intranet/IT services with other organisations, if so who?*

Response: No.

7. *Which team and/or individual(s) are responsible for managing your intranet internally?*

Response: The Risk & Information team.

8. *Are you using the Office 365 suite? If so, which applications from the suite are in use?*

Yes. UKAD is using Dynamics 365; Excel; Forms; Kaizala; MyAnalytics; OneDrive; OneNote; Outlook; Power Apps; Power Bi; PowerPoint; SharePoint; Teams; and Word.

9. *Which team and/or individual(s) are responsible for your intranet's procurement within the organisation?*

Response: The Risk & Information team.

10. *Is your Active Directory hosted on-premise, or in the cloud?*

Response: In the cloud.

11. *Could you provide us with a link to your Digital Workplace Strategy?*

Response: UKAD does not have a Digital Workplace Strategy document.

Conclusion

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 and should be addressed to: Philip Bunt, Chief Operating Officer, UK Anti-Doping, Fleetbank House, 2-6 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AE. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.

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

UK Anti-Doping

UKAD