



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2013-04576

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Construction Contracts

Request and Answer:

Question

Please can you let me have the following information for each construction contract over £300k that have been completed in the last five years:

- The contract's description
- Contractor
- Contract form i.e. NEC 3 , GC works, PFI etc
- The sub form - i.e. Design Build, Option A, Minor Works
- Works specification - i.e. traditional (client designs), Design and build (contractor designs)
- How price is agreed - i.e. lump sum/target price/ cost reimbursable/schedule of Rates
- Whether BIM or ECI has been used or not
- Framework Name if Applicable
- type of work - i.e. refurbishment/ new build/ fit out/
- Gross Internal area of the works if applicable
- Contract price for construction
- Final price for construction
- Contract/ construction start date
- Initial construction completion date- i.e. at contract signature (or Construction period)
- Actual construction completion date

I know that this seems to be a lot of information, but much of it is published in old contracts register entries/ Contracts Finder and in open data payment information.

Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate costs limit" under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450 (18 hours).

In the last 5 years, there have been approximately 125+ projects. Data is held on a variety of media, and would therefore require a manual retrieval exercise. Estimating 1.5 hours to retrieve information for each project would equate to approximately 187.5 hours, grossly exceeding the 18 hour cost limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit. **Subject to any relevant exemptions, it may be possible to retrieve some of the information for 10 projects within the cost limit.**

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

