



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending
watchdog

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NAO REPLACEMENT FIRE DETECTION AND ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACT

Thank you for your FOI request to the National Audit Office (NAO) dated 30 January 2025. You asked for information about the NAO Replacement Fire Detection and Alarm System contract.

Your request has been handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We have checked our records and can confirm that we hold some of the information you requested. Your specific request is set out in **Annex A** where we have provided our responses. We have withheld some information in accordance with Section 40(2) (Personal information) and Section 41 (Information provided in confidence) of the FOIA. Details of these exemptions can be found in **Annex B**.

Our policy is to respond to requests as helpfully and promptly as possible. I hope this information is helpful and you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not happy with this response, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days by writing to the NAO FOI Team at FOI@nao.org.uk. 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 primary way of escalating your concerns to the Information Commissioner is at: <https://ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>.

Yours sincerely,

FOI and Correspondence Officer

Annex A

The details we require are:

1. What are the contractual performance KPI's for this contract?

The standard provisions of model form JCT Minor Works Building Contract with Contractor's design apply, in particular sections 2 and 3 of the Contract.

2. Suppliers who applied for inclusion on each framework/contract and were successful & not successful at the PQQ & ITT stages

The following suppliers responded to the invitation to tender:

LDN Services

Senseco Systems

Ventro

KCS Projects

Churches Fire

Mitie Security

Logic Fire and Security

Paragon/M&G

ABCA

3. Actual spend on this contract/framework (and any sub lots), from the start of the contract to the current date

The supplier has not invoiced us yet.

4. Start date & duration of framework/contract?

The contract start date is 4 June 2024 and the end date is 3 June 2025.

5. Could you please provide a copy of the service/product specification given to all bidders for when this contract was last advertised?

We have withheld the specification in accordance with Section 41 of FOIA (Information Provided in Confidence).

Reasons why we have applied this exemption:

The specification was prepared by OnPoint for the sole benefit, use and information of the NAO. The information in the specification is not in the public domain and remains subject to an obligation of confidence between the NAO and OnPoint. Disclosure of the information under FOIA would be detrimental to OnPoint's commercial interests and would constitute an actionable breach of confidence.

We have considered whether there is a public interest in disclosure which overrides the competing public interest in maintaining the duty of confidence under Section 41. However, we consider that the public interest favours maintaining confidentiality, given the likely impact of disclosure on OnPoint.

6. Is there an extension clause in the framework(s)/contract(s) and, if so, the duration of the extension?

There is no extension clause.

7. Has a decision been made yet on whether the framework(s)/contract(s) are being either extended or renewed?

Not applicable.

8. Who is the senior officer (outside of procurement) responsible for this contract?

We have withheld this information in accordance with Section 40(2) of FOIA (Personal Information)

Reasons why we have applied section 40(2):

We are not obliged, under section 40(2) of the FOIA to disclose personal information if releasing it would contravene the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. In this instance we believe releasing the name of the individual NAO officer would contravene the first data protection principle which requires the processing of personal data to be lawful, fair and transparent. We do not consider it necessary or fair to the individuals concerned to disclose this personal information.

Annex B

This annex sets out the exemptions that we have applied to your request.

Section 40, Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal information

Section 40, paragraphs 1-4, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) provides that:

(1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.

(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—

(a) it constitutes personal data which does not fall within subsection (1), and

(b) the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.

(3A) The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act—

(a) would contravene any of the data protection principles, or

(b) would do so if the exemptions in section 24(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (manual unstructured data held by public authorities) were disregarded.

(3B) The second condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene Article 21 of the GDPR (general processing: right to object to processing).

(4A) The third condition is that—

(a) on a request under Article 15(1) of the GDPR (general processing: right of access by the data subject) for access to personal data, the information would be withheld in reliance on provision made by or under section 15, 16 or 26 of, or Schedule 2, 3 or 4 to, the Data Protection Act 2018, or

(b) on a request under section 45(1)(b) of that Act (law enforcement processing: right of access by the data subject), the information would be withheld in reliance on subsection (4) of that section.

Section 41 – Information provided in confidence

Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- (1) *Information is exempt if—*
 - (a) *it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and*
 - (b) *the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person.*
- (2) *The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) constitute an actionable breach of confidence.*