



My Ref: FOI/5004
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings regarding the recent Security Services Tender are as follows: -

- 1. Full disclosure of the tender documents under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including the scoring breakdown, evaluation notes, and any correspondence relevant to the award decision.**

Please find attached the information requested. Some details have been redacted as they are considered to be commercially sensitive and exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The tender submissions by bidders are also withheld as they are exempt under the same exemption.

Section 43(2) applies where disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the council or a third party. In this case, the council considers that the disclosure would prejudice the commercial interests of the companies bidding for the tender.

Releasing details of the tender documents would give detailed information regarding the companies finances, as well as how they would achieve value for money when bidding for tenders. This could give competitors an unfair advantage in future tender opportunities and allow them to tailor their bids to outscore those companies involved in this tender. It would also potentially prejudice the tender process itself, preventing the council or other third parties from running a competitive and fair process where this detailed information has been disclosed.

In considering the public interest test, the council acknowledges that there is significant public interest in ensuring that public funds are administered correctly, particularly in high value contracts. In this case, the council believes that the documents disclosed allow for sufficient transparency in the tender process and allow the public to see how the council reached a decision on which bidder to select. It is not envisaged that there is any legitimate public interest in disclosing the detailed tender bids, particularly given the likely prejudice to the bidders.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests via email

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.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 Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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