

24th August 2023

BY EMAIL



Our Ref: FOI 1957

Dear 

Your request for information was received on 24th April 2023 and was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please be advised that the Business Services Organisation (BSO) has now completed its search for the information you requested in relation to the response issued to a previous FOI request (our Ref FOI 1926).

Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in providing you with this formal response.

Please find this information below:

a) The source of this Freedom of Information request (i.e., the press, a preferred bidder, an unsuccessful bidder, or another).

I can advise that the original FOI request was made by the legal representative of a tenderer.

b) The specific information requested and/or that Business Services Organisation (BSO) Procurement and Logistics Service (PaLS) is considering disclosing under this request.

I would refer you to the email correspondence issued by BSO PaLS on Friday 5 May 2023 which addresses this point.

c) Whether all preferred bidders have received the same letter in relation to this Freedom of Information request, or whether it has been received by only a select number, or indeed by Leadcare Nursing Agency Ltd. only.

I should advise, that as indicated within the letter of 17 April 2023, this request was for 'any correspondence, communications, enquiries made, and/or documents issued and received in respect of the preferred bidders' experience'. It related to the preferred bidders, all of whom were contacts as part of the consultation.

The same letter was issued to all successful bidders

I hope that the information provided assists you. 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, as the BSO, along with all other public authorities are not obliged to accept internal review requests after this period has lapsed.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to

Information Governance Manager,
2 Franklin Street,
Belfast,
BT2 8DQ

If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision-making panel, you 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 BSO has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can contact Information Commissioner at:

Website: www.ico.org.uk
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Email: casework@ico.org.uk
Post: Information Commissioner's Office
3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place
Belfast
BT7 2JB

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.

Yours Sincerely,



Karen Bailey
Chief Executive