

Public Interest Test

Request for FOI/0224/731 Information	
FOIA Exemption S.43 (1) Commercial Interests	
<i>Factors supporting disclosure</i>	<i>Factors supporting non-disclosure</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a public interest test in disclosing information about transparency in the spending of public money and that public bodies are getting value for money when entering into contracts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pricing aspects outlined in the existing contract may be construed as a “trade secret” in that it is a strategy owned and developed by the contractors. If the pricing was made available to competitors in the marketplace it would undermine the commercial interests of the contractors when bidding for other contracts by reducing their competitive edge; • To reveal the details of the cost would seriously undermine our ability to negotiate the best value for money for the public purse on future contracts as the rates and methodology are still current; • The contractors object to the release of their bid information on the grounds that it contains commercially sensitive information in terms of “trade secrets” and rates’ and such a release would be actionable;
<p>Conclusion: there are compelling arguments which support withholding the information which outweigh those supporting release.</p> <p>PIT Members: Andy Hadley, Head of Primary Care Estates and Digital Transformation Jackie Bryan, Primary Care Programme Lead Andrea Brown, Governance Officer</p> <p>Date of Public Interest Test: 1st March 2024</p>	