

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam.

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ07065

Thank you for your request for information relating to bidders on the Council's Resource Allocation System contract.

You have requested the following information:

1. Can you please inform me about all the companies that bid on the below tender:

Resource Allocation System Reference number: COV - 8297

It is confirmed that the Council does hold information pursuant to your request. However, it is our view that the information is exempt from disclosure under the following exemptions in the FOIA:

SECTION 41(1)(a) and (b) – INFORMATION PROVIDED IN CONFIDENCE

Section 41(1)(a) of the Act provides that information is exempt if it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (or company, local authority or any other legal entity) and disclosure of the information to the public by the public authority holding it, would constitute a breach of confidence.

Coventry City Council considers that the conditions above are met. The information was provided to the Council as part of a tendering exercise. The tendering exercise was stated explicitly to be in confidence.

Therefore, all companies involved in the tender would have given their details in confidence to the Council, in support of their application and would not expect their details to be disclosed to the wide world, which is the case in relation to Freedom of Information requests. Furthermore, if the Council were to disclose the information, individual bidders could issue legal proceedings against the Council.

This is an absolute exemption under Section 41(1)(a) and (b) and is not subject to the public interest test.

We will therefore not be disclosing the requested information.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email <u>casework@ico.org.uk</u>.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours sincerely

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