

**From:** [Foi Enquiries](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI-17-1725 - Insurance Procurement  
**Date:** 03 January 2018 15:43:02  
**Attachments:** [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

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Dear [REDACTED],

Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your information request of 14 November 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

**Please provide a copy of your most recent ITT for insurance procurement. Also the total insurance spend during the most recent financial year.**

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **most recent ITT for insurance procurement** and **the total insurance spend during the most recent financial year** as it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 33(1)(b) – Commercial Interests - of the FOISA.

In making this decision ACC considered the following points:

Whose commercial interests will be damaged by the release of the information?

The commercial interests of ACC would be damaged by the release of the information.

What is the nature of those interests and in what way will this harm occur?

Providing this information has the potential to adversely affect ACC. Disclosure would be detrimental to the Council (potentially discouraging tenders which are fairly produced and competitive). This is very likely as we are due to tender in the next couple of years.

Where does the public interest lie in relation to the information and how is the release of the information under consideration not in the interest of the public?

The exemption claimed by ACC is a non-absolute exemption. Where a non-absolute exemption applies, ACC is required by Section 16(2) of FOISA, to inform you as to why in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information to you.

ACC recognises that there is a clear public interest in maintaining a level of transparency around public finances, and in support of this interest, ACC actively publishes financial information on its website in terms of 'following the public pound'. However, ACC also believes that there is public interest in allowing normal market forces to operate in a competitive environment and engage in a fair and transparent process. ACC believes that disclosure of the requested information could prejudice commercial relationships and future contractual negotiations with service providers.

Therefore, on balance, ACC believes that in this case, the public interest is best met by applying the exemption and that the information highlighted above should not be disclosed at this time.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster  
Information Compliance Officer

### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST**

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

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\*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.  
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

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