

Ref : FOI2024-006

[REDACTED]

12<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to our previous correspondence regarding your request for the following information:

*AWE's total spending on the supply chain, particularly in the area of digital transformation, in 2022 and/or 2023. Additionally, I am requesting details on the total amount spent on digital initiatives, specifying the amounts associated with each supplier and providing the names of the suppliers involved.*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

We can advise that whilst AWE may hold some information in scope of the subjects you have requested, we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit set out at Section 12 of the Act.

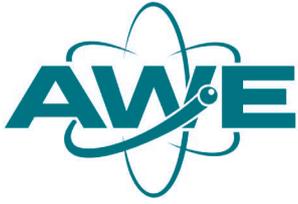
Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with it would exceed the appropriate limit, which, for public authorities is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.25 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

AWE estimates that to provide the information requested would take over 50 hours to review each descriptor line on every individual purchase order, to determine if it meets the request criteria. Under Section 16, advice and guidance, it might be useful to advise you that there are in excess of 100,000 lines of data per financial year requiring manual examination as it is not recorded in sufficiently granular detail to enable a response to your question, consequently requiring disproportionate effort to extract a meaningful figure.

Unfortunately, we cannot advise how to refine your request to enable AWE to comply with your request within the appropriate limit due to the methodology of the reports and also due to the resulting data may be fall within scope of other exemptions under the Act.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to [information.requests@awe.co.uk](mailto:information.requests@awe.co.uk) or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act



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Berkshire ▪ RG7 4PR

[www.awe.co.uk](http://www.awe.co.uk)

2000 you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team

