

Ref: FOI2026-056

I

2nd October 2026

Dear Miss [REDACTED]

We refer to your request for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request information relating to AWE's current and recent contracts with Connectr, Connectr Talent Technology, MyKindaFuture and/or MyKindaCrowd Ltd in relation to Early Careers, covering 1 January 2021 to the present. Please provide contract, scope, value/spend, procurement, renewal and performance information as set out on the attached continuation sheet. Where appropriate, please also provide a copy of the current contract, statement of work/specification and pricing schedule, with genuinely exempt information redacted as necessary.

The information is likely to be held by AWE's Future Talent / Early Careers, Procurement / Commercial and/or HR teams. Please search records held under the names 'Connectr', 'Connectr Talent Technology', 'MyKindaFuture' and 'MyKindaCrowd Ltd'. This request concerns Early Careers outreach, candidate engagement and preboarding services. I am not requesting personal data relating to individual employees, candidates or programme participants.

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

We can confirm that AWE holds all of the information you have requested, however we are withholding the information under section 43 (2) of the Act (Commercial Interests).

Section 43(2) provides an exemption where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the public authority holding the information.

The contracts to which your request relates are currently subject to an active procurement and tendering process. Disclosure of information relating to the contract requirements, pricing arrangements, evaluation considerations, commercial terms, bidder information, or procurement strategy at this stage would be highly likely to prejudice both AWE's commercial interests and those of current and prospective suppliers.

In particular, disclosure could:

Undermine AWE's ability to secure best value for public money through a fair and competitive procurement process.

Provide bidders with information that could distort competition and adversely affect the integrity of the ongoing tender exercise.

Reveal commercially sensitive information regarding contractual requirements, pricing structures, negotiation positions, or procurement strategy.

Prejudice the commercial interests of suppliers participating in the tender process by disclosing information that could be used by competitors.

As Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, we have considered the public interest test.

Public interest in releasing the information:

There is a public interest in promoting openness, transparency and accountability in relation to the expenditure of public funds and the procurement activities undertaken by public authorities. Disclosure would assist public understanding of how AWE procures goods and services and how public money is managed.

Public interest in maintaining the exemption

There is a strong public interest in ensuring that public authorities can conduct procurements fairly and effectively and achieve the best value for money. Disclosure during a live tender exercise would be highly likely to prejudice the competitive process, weaken AWE's negotiating position and potentially affect the outcome of the procurement. There is also a significant public interest in protecting the legitimate commercial interests of organisations participating in the tender process.

Balance of the public interest

Having carefully considered the competing public interest factors, AWE has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure at this time. Disclosure at this stage would provide the market with insight into AWE's commercial expectations and negotiating position while the competition remains active. This would be highly likely to prejudice AWE's ability to obtain the most economically advantageous outcome and could result in reduced competitive tension, thereby adversely affecting value for money for the taxpayer. The requested information is therefore withheld under Section 43(2) of the Act.

If appropriate, AWE may be able to reconsider disclosure once the procurement activity has concluded and the risk of commercial prejudice has diminished.

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 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 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