



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Commercial & Procurement Group
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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13 October 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0875-16

Thank you for your email of 16th September asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I would be very grateful if you could provide to me information in relation to your mobile, data and telecommunications service contracts including the following information:

- 1. Name of contract;*
- 2. Full Contact details of the Senior Responsible Officer, Senior ICT Officer, Senior Contract Manager, and Chief Technology Officer responsible for these services.*
- 3. Type of contract (what product or service it provides in broad terms);*
- 4. Term of the contract (with start and end dates);*
- 5. Total spend to date on the contract; and / or*
- 6. Total amount the contract is likely to cost;*
- 7. The incumbent supplier;*
- 8. If and when you will be procuring a replacement service;*
- 9. Will the replacement service be on a like for like basis or a new technology and what that new technology might be;*
- 10. Details of any existing Contract Notices, Prior Information Notices or pre-market engagement for the replacement of any of these services.*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested and can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

Some of the information you have requested, is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

The answers to your questions are as follows:

1. The name of the contract is Echo Global Communications.

2. The Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) is Colin Martin-Reynolds and the Deputy SRO is Stephen Robbins.
3. The contract delivers global telecoms services to the FCO and other Government Partners (DFID and British Council).
4. The contract started in October 2010 and is due to end in March 2018.
5. The estimated spend on the contract to 31 March 2016 is circa £116m.
6. The total amount the contract is likely to cost by March 2018 is £160.5m.
7. The incumbent supplier is Vodafone.
8. Work has recently started on procuring a new global telecoms service.
9. The type of service required will be covered during discussions for re-procurement. These discussions shall also involve other Government partners.
10. Pre-market engagement shall commence soon on the re-procurement. A Prior Information Notice has not been issued for this as yet.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on gov.uk in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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Yours sincerely,

Commercial Procurement Group



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