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25 September 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2023/24-024

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information:

1. Copies of the signed frameworks agreements with each supplier (with commercially sensitive data redacted) listed in appendix 1 of your request.
2. More detailed descriptions and the specifications for each award listed in appendix 1 of your request and the quantities of PPE ordered for each award.
3. The total amount paid to each supplier for the awards listed in appendix 1 of your request.
4. Items covered by the awards listed in appendix 1 of your request that were not included in the original Framework Agreement FAG000016052 awarded on 16 September 2016.
5. Any suppliers who received awards listed in appendix 1 of your request that were not included in the original Framework Agreement FAG000016052 awarded on 16 September 2016.
6. The actual value for each reward listed in Appendix 1 of your request including any payments made in excess of the award value.
7. The procurement process used to add suppliers to framework FAG000016052.

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we are able to provide the following responses:

1. Please see attachment 1 (Framework Agreement Template). The template is used for each supplier, there are no differences except for the details of the supplier's commercial offer which is commercially sensitive. To review and redact 57 suppliers' framework agreements will take time and the result will be the same as the template.
2. The generic specifications for PPE were published on the DHSC PPE website. Please see the attached document: 2 Essential Technical Specifications PPE and Medical Devices. For the quantities of PPE for each award, please see the attached spreadsheet: 2 FOI Volume by CAN.
3. SCCL confirm that we do hold this information, however the information is held across numerous datasets and would require manual reconciliation of a large number of purchase orders. We have estimated that the cost of meeting this request would exceed the cost limit of £450 under Section 12 the FOI Act. The relevant Regulations which define the appropriate limit for section 12 purposes are The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with this part of your request as the £450 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which

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equates to 18 hours of work per request. We invite you to refine your request, so that it is more likely to fall under the cost limit and will be considered again.

4. The Framework Agreement covers all the product groups from the Contract Award Notices listed in appendix 1. The Framework Agreement quoted (FAG000016052) does not cover gloves, this is a separate Framework Agreement.
5. Please see the attached spreadsheet '5 FA list for CANS', this details the frameworks that cover the Contract Award Notices listed in appendix 1.
6. SCCL confirm that we do hold this information, however the information is held across numerous datasets and would require manual reconciliation of a large number of purchase orders. We have estimated that the cost of meeting this request would exceed the cost limit of £450 under Section 12 the FOI Act. The relevant Regulations which define the appropriate limit for section 12 purposes are The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with this part of your request as the £450 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 18 hours of work per request. We invite you to refine your request, so that it is more likely to fall under the cost limit and will be considered again.
7. No orders were placed by NHS Supply Chain with suppliers who were not on an NHS Supply Chain Framework Agreement, please see the spreadsheet mentioned above which identifies by each Contract Award Notice what the relevant Framework Agreement was. As all PPE products were in short supply we sourced products using Reg 72 and did not issue bespoke contracts. Where a supplier was part of a Framework Agreement we used the T&Cs. The reason we published the Contract Award Notices was that these were Reg 72 orders, not under the Framework Agreement but using the Framework Agreement T&Cs.

We hope that this response addresses your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the postal or e-mail addresses above, quoting the reference number above. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the handling of your information request will be reassessed by a member of SCCL staff who was not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the FOI team.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Supply Chain Coordination Limited
Management Function of NHS Supply Chain