

Further to my email of 22 August 2014, I am now in a position to respond to your request for information of 21 August 2014 which was:

*1. Could you please provide me with the total number of contracts put out for tender by your organisation during the following two periods:*

*a) January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010 (or the nearest available 12-month period – please specify), and*

*b) January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013 (or the nearest available 12-month period – please specify)*

*2. For each of these two periods, please state how many of these contracts were awarded after a tendering process in which only one contractor submitted a bid.*

My responses to your questions are as follows:

1a) In the period as above, the total is 26 contracts

1b) In the period as above, the total is 40 contracts

2) 1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010 = 14 and 1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013 = 15

Please note that we do not, as a matter of course, record the contract notice date of tenders that we put out. The figures above also include those contracts that were awarded during each specified period (the majority of the related tenders would also have been published in each specified period).

There are three additional contracts for which we hold a record that the tender was published in 2009 but awarded in 2010, and two contracts included above for which we hold a record that they were put out to tender in 2013 but weren't awarded until 2014.

Of the figures collated in preparing this response, we have not included call offs or further competition exercises on existing framework contracts because they would seem to be outside of the scope of your request, however please let me know if you do not consider that to be the case. However, we have included invitations to quote for smaller value contracts, excluding those where verbal quotes were obtained (under the value of £1,000).

I have not applied any exemptions, however if you wish to complain about my handling of your request, please email or write to me.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ian Phillips