

From: **Information Access**

Date: 20 June 2006

Our Ref: ****

BY EMAIL

Dear ****

I am writing in reply to your request for information on VOSAs ICT *****.

Documents:

ICT plan

Public Service Agreement Targets

Efficiency Technical Notes

We sent you an email on 12 June asking for clarification of this part of your request, but do not appear to have received a response. If you can be more specific about the information you require, we will be able to locate any relevant document(s) held.

ICT asset register

VOSA does not own the ICT equipment used by its staff. ICT equipment is provided by a private sector contractor, Atos Origin, as part of a managed ICT service.

Investment strategy

VOSAs ICT investment strategy contains details of budgets allocated to future projects. Release of these details is considered likely to prejudice the commercial interests of VOSA and is therefore exempt under Section 43 of the Act. A public interest has been applied and is included as Appendix A to this letter.

ICT staff numbers

VOSA employs 28 full and part-time ICT staff, equivalent to 27.5 full time posts.

Total annual ICT expenditure
Annual expenditure on hardware
Annual expenditure on software
Annual expenditure on telephony
Annual expenditure on ICT support services
Annual expenditure on outsourced ICT services

Please note that you have already requested this information. I attach a copy of the response issued to you on 26 May (our reference * * * * *) as a separate attachment.

Decision makers:

The names and responsibilities of members of the VOSA Directing Board will be published on our website, www.vosa.gov.uk.

Deputy

VOSA's Chief Executive is Stephen Tetlow. There is no deputy Chief Executive, but Mr Tetlow may refer matters to the relevant director.

IT Director

Andy White. Please note that Mr White is employed by Atos Origin.

Chief Information Officer

Jeff Belt

Service Transformation Director/Manager

VOSA does not have an equivalent post.

Shared Services Director/ Manager

Responsibility for shared services falls to the Human Resources Director, Martin Jones.

Further information

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference * * * *. Further information, including details of our complaints procedures, is set out in Appendix B.

Yours sincerely

* * * * *

APPENDIX A
Public Interest Test – Investment strategy

<p>Section 43 (2) <i>Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it)</i></p>	
<p><i>Factors for disclosure</i></p>	<p><i>Factors for withholding</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability of public expenditure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The investment strategy contains details of budgets allocated to specific projects. Revealing details of budgets would be likely to weaken VOSA's position in future contract negotiations
<p><i>Reasons why public interest favours withholding information</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is in the public interest that VOSA achieves value for money when procuring goods and services. This would be made difficult if details of IT budgets were to become public knowledge. 	

APPENDIX B

Further information

Step 1 - Queries

If you have any queries about the information you have received, or the reasons why it has been withheld, please contact the case officer, who will be happy to assist you. His/her contact details are given at the head of this letter.

Step 2 - Complaints

If you are unhappy with the way the case officer has handled your request, or are not satisfied with the decision to withhold information, you may ask for an internal review. To request an internal review, please write to:

* * * * *

giving the reasons for your complaint.

Step 3 - Appeals

If you do not agree with the outcome of the internal review, you may lodge an appeal with the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk). The Information Commissioner is an independent official appointed by the Crown to oversee the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The Information Commissioner can consider complaints about any aspect of the way in which requests for information have been handled. Please note: the Information Commissioner would be unlikely to consider your complaint if you have not first requested an internal review.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF