



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending
watchdog

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GAS AND ELECTRICITY CONTRACTS

Thank you for your request of 22 January 2024 for information about our gas and electricity contracts and energy management system. Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We can confirm that we hold some information within the scope of your request. Your specific request is set out in **Annex A** together with our response to each part of the request. For future reference, it may be helpful to explain that most of this information is published in our [Annual Report and Accounts 2022-23 \(nao.org.uk\)](https://www.nao.org.uk) (see 'Sustainability data' on page 176).

We have withheld certain information under section 40(2) (personal information) of the FOIA. Details of this exemption and how this applies to your request can be found in **Annex B**.

We hope you find this response helpful. **Annex C** sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

NAO FOI Team

Annex A

Request for information:

"I am writing to submit a Freedom of Information (FOI) request regarding information related to the organisation's gas and electricity contracts, as well as details on the energy management system."

Gas and Electricity Contracts:	
1. Energy Provider	EDF Energy - Electricity Total Energies – Gas
2. Annual Spend for each provider for the past 3 financial years.	Electricity 2020-21 £470,000 2021-22 £456,000 2022-23 £599,000 Gas 2020-21 £54,000 2021-22 £43,000 2022-23 £80,000 Spend includes VAT
3. Contract Duration (Including any extensions)	5 Years
4. Contract start date	April 2020 for both contracts
5. Contract Expiry Date	March 2025 for both contracts
6. Contract Review Dates	Reviewed annually via the Crown Commercial Services
7. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title	Head of Facilities Contact details withheld under s40(2) - see Annex B
8. Total Consumption of Gas, please provide me with the latest figure in cubic metres.	2020-21 1,741,963 kWh (approx 157,000 m3) 2021-22 1,634,373 kWh (approx 147,000 m3) 2022-23 1,770,508 kWh (approx 159,000 m3)
9. Total Consumption of Electricity (NHH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.	0
10. Total Consumption of Electricity (HH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.	2020-21 1,927,259 kWh 2021-22 1,945,210 kWh 2022-23 2,199,162 kWh
11. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title at the very least	Head of Facilities Contact details withheld under s40(2) - see Annex B

Energy Management System Provider	
1. Annual Spend	N/A
2. Contract Duration (Including any extensions)	N/A
3. Contract Expiry Date	N/A
4. Contract start date	N/A
5. Contract Review Date	N/A
6. Contract Description – A description of the services provided.	N/A
7. Brand of the software	N/A
8. Total number of meter points for electricity:	
a. Non-Half Hourly (NHH) meter points	0
b. Half Hourly (HH) meter points	175
9. Total number of Gas meter points	7
10. Total number of meter points for specialist gases and liquids	N/A
11. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title	Head of Facilities Contact details withheld under s40(2) - see Annex B

Annex B

Section 40, Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal information

Section 40, paragraphs 1-4, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) provides that:

(1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.

(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—

- (a) it constitutes personal data which does not fall within subsection (1), and*
- (b) the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.*

(3A) The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act—

- (a) would contravene any of the data protection principles, or*
- (b) would do so if the exemptions in section 24(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (manual unstructured data held by public authorities) were disregarded.*

(3B) The second condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene Article 21 of the GDPR (general processing: right to object to processing).

(4A) The third condition is that—

- (a) on a request under Article 15(1) of the GDPR (general processing: right of access by the data subject) for access to personal data, the information would be withheld in reliance on provision made by or under section 15, 16 or 26 of, or Schedule 2, 3 or 4 to, the Data Protection Act 2018, or*
- (b) on a request under section 45(1)(b) of that Act (law enforcement processing: right of access by the data subject), the information would be withheld in reliance on subsection (4) of that section.*

Reasons why we have applied this exemption

We are not obliged, under Section 40(2) of the FOIA, to provide personal information of another person if releasing it would contravene any of the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018.

We believe disclosure of the contact details of an individual NAO officer would contravene the first data protection principle, which requires the processing of personal data to be lawful, fair and transparent.

In this instance we do not believe it would be fair to the individual officer concerned to disclose their personal information. We have therefore withheld their contact details in the table in Annex A.

Annex C

Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at FOI@nao.org.uk or by post to:

FOI Team, Green 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The FOI & Correspondence Manager will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The primary way of escalating your concerns to the Information Commissioner is at: <https://ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Alternatively, you can contact the ICO at <https://ico.org.uk/> or Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF.