Our Ref: UKSBS-FOI26-27-050

26 October 2026

Dear

Thank you for your email of 30 September in which you requested the following information:

REQUEST DETAILS:
I am doing some research and have noticed that you have not published any spend with suppliers files since May 2025.
Can you please let me know when you intend to update the files, and/or can you send me copies (preferably CSV) of all files June 2025-Aug 2026.

Your request was handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

RESPONSE DETAILS:

I can confirm that UKSBS holds some information you have requested. Please find our responses below:

Please find attached the Spend with Suppliers transparency reports for the period requested.

We are withholding certain policy information contained within the Spend with Suppliers reports as we consider this information to be exempt from disclosure under section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Section 31(1)(a) provides an exemption where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

Disclosure of detailed information regarding UKSBS policy data could provide insight into commercially sensitive and operational information. We consider that disclosure of this information could assist malicious actors in identifying potential vulnerabilities or targets for unauthorised access, fraud, cyber intrusion or other criminal activity. We therefore consider that disclosure would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

Section 31 is a qualified exemption, and we must therefore consider whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

UKSBS recognises the public interest in transparency and accountability, including transparency around public expenditure. However, we consider there to be a stronger

public interest in protecting information where its disclosure could increase the risk of unauthorised access, fraud, cyber intrusion or other criminal activity.

On balance, we consider that the public interest favours maintaining the exemption and withholding this information from disclosure.

I have established that some of the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure. Certain information contained within the 'Supplier Name' and 'Item Description' fields constitutes personal data and has therefore been withheld and replaced with 'Unspecified.'

Section 40(2) applies to the personal data of third parties. Disclosure of this information into the public domain would contravene Article 5(1)(a) of the UK GDPR and section 34 of the Data Protection Act 2018, which require personal data to be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently. The individuals concerned would have no reasonable expectation that their personal data would be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As disclosure would be unlawful, the information is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

This exemption is absolute and class based therefore I am not required to apply either the public interest test or harm test in disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

I hope this information is of assistance.

If you are dissatisfied with the above response you have a right to request a review of your Freedom of Information request. Details of the complaints and review procedure are appended to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Senior Information Governance Officer
Risk and Assurance
UK Shared Business Services Ltd

UKSBS Information Commissioner's Office Registration Number: Z1237687

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