

Our Ref: 2529

FOI Request dated 24th December 2021 as below -

1. *What Applications and versions are you running and what was the value of the contracts for:*

- *a. Finance?*
- *b. HR?*
- *c. Payroll?*
- *d. Projects?*
- *e. Business Intelligence Software Tools?*

2. *Are you planning a IT system upgrade in the next 12-18 months?*

3. *How many Full Time Employees do you have (excluding employees at Schools)?*

4. *Which Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) or Finance system do you currently use?*

a. What is the value & expiry date of your current contract/licence? What are the extension options?

5. *How many Finance system users do you have?*

6. *How many Purchasing system users do you have?*

7. *Which Supply Chain Management (SCM) System do you currently use?*

a. What is the value & expiry date of your current contract/licence? What are the extension options?

8. *Which Enterprise Performance Management (EPM), Scenario Planning or Strategic Modelling system do you currently use?*

9. *What is the value & expiry date of your current contract/licence? What are the extension options?*

10. *Which Human Capital Management (HCM) or HR system do you currently use?*

a. What is the value & expiry date of your current contract/licence? What are the extension options?

11. *How many HR system users do you have?*

12. *Do you have a Digital Transformation Strategy?*

13. *What parts of your Digital Transformation Strategy are you looking to implement in the next 12-18 months?*

14. *Do you have any plans to migrate to a fully integrated, fully cloud based back-office system in the next two years*

15. *Do you have an Oracle support partner for applications? If so who?*

What kind of support is included in the contract (functional/technical/etc.?)

When does it expire?

16. *Are you running any Oracle Databases?*

If so, what versions are you currently running?

What applications are being run on these Databases?

Are you planning another Database upgrade in the next 12-18 months?

17. *Do you have an Oracle support partner for Databases? If so who?*

What is the per annum value of the database support contract?

When does it expire?

Where are the databases held? Hosted, onsite/offsite?

If not, how many in-house DBAs do you have?

18. Where do you advertise any Oracle procurement opportunities?

Who is responsible for looking after the contract for the Oracle estate?

Who is responsible for looking after the licenses for the Oracle estate?

When does this contract renew?

Do you work with off-shore partners?

19. Have you considered using a Software As A Service solution and not yet moved to one? Do you currently work with any partners in this space?

20. At what level are decisions are made around procuring software and services such as video conferencing?

21. We request for you to provide contact details of all chief decision makers regarding your technology through your organisation?

22. What software does your University run for its Grants Pre-Awards and Post Awards processes?

Response

1. Applications and Versions
 - (a) Finance – Dream (£11,000 p.a.)
 - (b) HR – iTrent (£57,000 covers both HR and Payroll elements)
 - (c) Payroll – iTrent (as above)
 - (d) Projects – No specific organisational wide software. MS Project is used in some operational areas (The Microsoft products do not have overarching contracts but are in general covered by the educational agreement we have with Microsoft which covers the vast majority of M/S products under the one agreement)
 - (e) Business Intelligence Software Tools – Microsoft BI Desktop and Server, Microsoft SQL Server and Microsoft Reporting Services (as above)
2. Yes
3. 1444
4. No ERP System. Finance system is as advised in 1(a)
 - (a) Contract review date of 2022
5. 89 Finance System Users
6. 556 Users but this includes E-Expenses users as well
7. None
 - (a) N/A
8. None

9. N/A

10. iTrent
(a) 29/09/2024

11. We have around 3,400 users on employee self-service
We have around 420 users with access to People Manager
We have around 160 users with access to other roles on the HR system
(Please note people could have more than one of the access stated above and this information changes daily, due to starters and leavers and position changes)

12. This part of your request we have exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 43(2) – Commercial Interests

Section 43 is a class-based qualified exemption and is therefore subject to a Public Interest test.

Public interest considerations Factors favouring disclosure

Disclosing information regarding future IT projects, business plans and ICT strategic plans involved would ensure the University of Hull are being open and transparent with the public. The disclosure would encourage public debate and increase public awareness on this subject matter. It would also allow the public to see where the public funds for the University are being spent.

Factors against disclosure

Disclosing the information requested is likely to damage the relationship between the University of Hull and the service provider(s) of future projects/plans. In turn, this could prejudice the commercial interests of the service provider(s), especially in cases where there may be a limited number of suppliers in the market. Making a disclosure could identify information which has been specifically obtained through negotiation between the University of Hull and the service provider(s), thus prejudicing the University of Hull position in future negotiations.

Balance test

Despite there being an identifiable public interest in the University of Hull being open and transparent, the interests of the University may be jeopardised if information relating to sensitive commercial information about future IT projects, business plans and ICT strategic plans are disclosed. The community would also be impacted as costs to the University could be driven up by the lack of competition due to companies refusing to do business with University's that disclose commercially sensitive information. If this information were to be disclosed, this could cause harm between the University of Hull and its service provider(s). Having weighed up all of the factors outlined above, on balance the argument for disclosing this information is not made out and therefore it is in the public interest to withhold this information from disclosure.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the University of Hull, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this email acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

13. As per Question 12, Section 43 (2) applies as above.

14. A proposed Cloud First Strategy is currently under development
15. No
16. No
17. No
18. N/A
19. Software as a Service solutions are considered whenever new services are required or existing service contracts are reviewed.
20. Please see the procurement information available on the website
<https://www.hull.ac.uk/work-with-us/more/supplying-our-university/procurement>

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which: a) states that fact b) specifies the exemption(s) in question and c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

It has been determined that this information is exempt on the basis that s21 of the Act applies – Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means. As this exemption is absolute there is no requirement for me to conduct a public interest test, however in order to provide assistance I provide the following link - <https://www.hull.ac.uk/work-with-us/more/supplying-our-university/procurement>

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22. Worktribe