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## Freedom of Information request reference number: 7598.1

## Date of response: 12 July 2023

## **Request:**

Please may you provide me, in Microsoft Excel or an equivalent electronic format, with a list of invoices that were not paid within 30 days for the last 6 financial years which would feed into the Regulation 113 Notice you are required to publish each year as part of your obligations under The Public Contracts Regulations 2015, with the following information for each invoice (where available):

- The name of the Supplier
- Supplier email address
- Supplier company registration number
- Supplier postal address
- Supplier telephone number
- Supplier website
- The date of the invoice
- The invoice reference
- The gross value of the Invoice
- The date the invoice should have been paid by
- The actual payment date of the invoice
- The total amount of interest liability due to late payment of the invoice
- The total amount of interest paid to the supplier due to late payment of the invoice.

## Response:

To provide the information requested we would have to search through our manual records to obtain the data. With several records to review including historical information that would need to be retrieved from archive we consider this to be a lengthy exercise that would exceed our cost limit.

This 'fees limit' is calculated by taking the cost limit appropriate to the Brigade (i.e.  $\pm$ 450) divided by the standard rate at which a local authority (including the Brigade) can charge for this work ( $\pm$ 25 an hour). This equates to 18 hours.

With over 47,000 invoices dating back to 2017 to manually review these records and extract the requested information if we used an average of five minutes per invoice it will take us over the 18 hours.

I therefore confirm that the cost of providing the information you have requested is greater than the "appropriate limit" of  $\pounds$ 450 as defined the FOIA fee regulations. In setting this out in full this now serves as a formal 'refusal notice' based on section 12 of the FOIA. As you may be aware, if the cost exceeds the appropriate limit to comply with a request, a public authority is not obliged to comply with it.

I am sorry we have not been able to provide you with all the information you have requested. If you are able to further refine your request, please get in touch.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request <u>on</u> <u>our website</u>