

**Fol ref: 2014 - 00410**

**Request received: 14 April 2014**

**Response sent: 3 July 2014**

**Request:**

**Names of any external consultancy companies/services, procured/retained by the Force or The Police and Crime Commissioner over the last 18 months.**

**Copies of all procurement adverts and summary of published tender documents (outline of the work procured)**

**Copies of any final or interim performance/management reports that give an account of the work completed by external consultancy companies/services.**

Thank you for your email which was received by the Office for Policing and Crime on the 14 April 2014 where you requested information about consultants.

From our preliminary assessment, we have estimated that it will cost more than the 'appropriate limit' to consider your request. Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for Police and Crime Commissioners is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In this case a record of performance/management reports is not centrally held and so an extensive search would need to be undertaken to see whether any information is held. Therefore to locate and extract the relevant data for question 3 would exceed the appropriate limit. Once one part of a request exceeds the cost limit, the whole request is deemed to do so.

However, we are happy to supply the information relevant to your request that can be located and extracted within the appropriate limit. We could locate a list of expenditure incurred on consultancy for October 2012 – March 2014 by the Police and Crime Commissioner. You should note that any located information might be subject to the application of exemptions under the Act.

Please note that contracts with a value of less than £25,000 are published on the internet at the following address

<http://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/budgetary-and-financial-information/lists-and-copies-of-contracts>

Contracts below £25,000 are due to be published on the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner's website in the future.

To enable us to proceed with your request I would be grateful if you could confirm whether you wish us to provide a list of expenditure incurred on consultancy for October 2012 – March 2014 by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Once confirmation is received it will be treated as a fresh FOI request. If you choose not to respond your request will remain unanswered.