

FOI DOF/2024-0092

**Request**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information for the Project

"Project Name: DAERA - NIEA - PROCUREMENT OF AN AUTOMATED ACCELERATED SOLVENT EXTRACTION SYSTEM

Reference number: GB003ZM513120

1. Copy of successful tender – we want this information under **freedom of Information act 2000**
2. Scoring table of all bidders, split by scores awarded for each question of bid
3. Price/Cost Proposed by each Bidder – we want this information for all the bidders who submitted the response.
4. Name of the Winning Bidder.
5. Name & Rank of all bidders who submitted responses.
6. Approximate date that the tender will be reissued towards the end of the current contract period.

**DoF response**

The Department has completed its search in relation to the above questions.

I can confirm the department holds some of the information requested, however some information has been withheld as it falls within an exemption. Further details are provided below in the order of the aforementioned requests.

1. The information requested is withheld under Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) as the disclosure of this information under the Act would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Tenderers and the department.

Section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the FOIA states that "Information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act, would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it)". Section 43 (2) is a qualified exemption and is subject to a public interest test (please see – Annex B attached).

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4. The winning tenderer is Thermo Electron Manufacturing LTD.
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6. The initial contract period expires on 31 March 2025. There are 9 optional extension periods of one year for extended warranty and maintenance. If the optional extension periods are taken up, the contract will expire on 31 March 2034. No decision has been made in terms of re-procurement. All interested suppliers are encouraged to register on etenders NI portal to view all tender opportunities.