

23 September 2022



Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 24 August 2022 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Your request was for information related to UKAD's telephony and storage.

Response

2. UKAD confirms that it holds the information requested and provides a response to each of your questions below.

1. Telephony and UC/Collaboration

Question a: Please confirm the manufacturer of your telephony system(s) that are currently in place.

Response: Microsoft Teams Call Plan

Question b: When is your contract renewal date?

Response: October 2023

Question c: Who maintains your telephony system(s)?

Response: Koris365

Question d: Do you use Unified Communications or Collaboration tools, if so which ones?

Response: Microsoft Teams, Zoom

2. Microsoft

Question a. What Microsoft 365 licence do you have across the business e.g. E3, E5?

Response: M365 Business Premium, Defender for Endpoint, Teams Phone Standard, Windows 10/11 Enterprise E3.

Questions b: Which partner looks after your Microsoft tenant?

Response: ElysianIT

Question c: Where do you host your applications? Do you have on-premise infrastructure or do you host your applications in public or private cloud? Which?

Response: Hosted in Microsoft Azure cloud infrastructure.

3. Storage

Question a: Does your organisation use on-premise or cloud storage or both?

Response: Cloud

Question b: Please confirm the on-premise hardware manufacturer.

Response: N/A

Question c: Please confirm your cloud storage provider.

Response: Microsoft Azure.

Question d: What is your annual spend on cloud storage?

Response: UKAD confirms that it holds the information requested regarding the annual spend on cloud storage, however, we are withholding this under the exemption provided in section 43 of the Act. This is on the grounds that releasing the information would be likely to

prejudice the commercial interests of both UKAD and a third party (Microsoft Azure).

Section 43(2) of the Act provides as follows:

Information is exempt information 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).

UKAD has concluded that information about the annual spend on cloud storage is exempt from disclosure because to do so would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both UKAD and Microsoft Azure. This is because revealing such commercially sensitive information to Microsoft Azure's competitors would be likely to place Microsoft Azure at a disadvantage in future negotiations with both UKAD and other organisations; specifically, disclosing the company's pricing structure could enable competitors to undercut Microsoft Azure in the future.

Likewise, revealing the fees paid by UKAD would likely adversely affect UKAD's bargaining position in any future negotiations for training and result in less competitive tender applications being made. Disclosing such information would also be likely to deter other companies from contracting with UKAD (and other public authorities) in the future, undermining UKAD's ability to obtain value for money in future contracts.

Having determined the prejudice that would likely arise from disclosing the annual spend on cloud storage, UKAD has gone on to consider whether the public interest test requires disclosure of this information.

UKAD recognises the public interest in public authorities being transparent and accountable, particularly in relation to expenditure of public funds. UKAD also recognises that it is in the public interest to ensure that the authorities are obtaining value for money, and that disclosing the cost of UKAD's training would allow the public to undertake such an evaluation.

Conversely, there is also the public interest in fairness of competition and in ensuring that the ability of public authorities to

obtain value for money is not undermined. Disclosure of fees paid to Microsoft Azure would be likely to damage its ability to compete on a level playing field and cause fair competition to be reduced, simply because Microsoft Azure has contracted with a public authority. As a result, the risk arises that fewer companies may be willing to contract with UKAD, and that less competitive tender applications will be made, undermining UKAD's ability to obtain value for money in its future expenditure of public funds.

Having considered the public interest arguments both for and against maintaining the exemption, UKAD has concluded that the balance of the public interests falls in favour of non-disclosure in this instance.

Question e: How do you back up your data and with whom e.g. Backup as a Service?

Response: Azure Backup

Conclusion

3. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be addressed to: Philip Bunt, Chief Operating Officer, UK Anti-Doping, SportPark, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, LE11 3QF. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.
4. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely
UK Anti-Doping