



Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

Please ask for: Service Information Team Leader
Tel:
Our ref:
Your ref: N/A
Date: 02 July 2019

If you have any difficulty in obtaining the above telephone number please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk.

Re: Request for information (our ref: NFRS2019-35-36)

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received 04 June 2019. Our response is provided below:

Q1 What procurement system do you use? And is this also where you publish tenders?

Following Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service's (NFRS's) transfer of governance on 01 January 2019 from Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) to the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC), the East Midlands Strategic Commercial Unit (EMSCU) now manages the process of procurement exercise and supplier relationship management for NFRS. The internal system utilised by EMSCU is Crystal, tenders are not published on this system as it is not an external system.

Q2 Do you publish tenders anywhere else, if so where? For example, your website, Contracts Finder etc.

Depending on the type of contract, EMSCU publish tenders on behalf of NFRS on the following sites:

- [Bluelight](#) (Emergency Services eTendering system)
- [Source East Midlands](#) (Regional public sector advertising portal)
- [Tender Electronic Daily](#) (European public procurement journal used for all requirements with a total contract value above the EU thresholds, i.e. £173,934 for Supplies and Services and £4,348,350 for Works)

Q3 How much do you pay per annum for your procurement software?

N/A as per the explanation provided for Q1, this is carried out by a partner agency (EMSCU) on behalf of a number of public authorities. The budget to cover EMSCU has been sourced via the Authority (OPFCC) not NFRS.

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Q4 What are the contract start and end dates with the provider and when will the next tender become available?

Procurement via EMSCU has been in place since our transfer of governance on 01 January 2019 and there are no immediate decisions to review NFRS procurement arrangements.

Q5 How long have you used this software for in total?

Please refer to answer provided for Q4.

Q6 What are the purchasing rules of your organisation? For example - £0-£10,000 (3 quotes), £10,000+ public notification etc.

Purchasing and procurement for NFRS is outlined in our [Corporate Governance Framework](#).

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference NFRS2019-35-36.

Yours sincerely

Service Information Team Leader

If you are unhappy with the response, you can ask the Service to review it. To do this, please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk or alternatively write to the address below:

Service Information Manager
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
Moulton Logistics Centre
Moulton Way
Northampton
NN3 6XJ

If our internal review does not resolve the issue to your complete satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision at the following address:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF