



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Please note the text of this request has been reproduced exactly as received.

**FOI Reference number: FOI 09/2024**

**Date: 16 February 2024**

### **Request:**

**\*\*Gas and Electricity Contracts: \*\***

1. Energy Provider
2. Annual Spend for each provider for the past 3 financial years.
3. Contract Duration (Including any extensions)
4. Contract start date
5. Contract Expiry Date
6. Contract Review Dates
7. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title
8. Total Consumption of Gas, please provide me with the latest figure in cubic metres.
9. Total Consumption of Electricity (NHH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.
10. Total Consumption of Electricity (HH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.
11. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title at the very least

Energy Management System Contract(s) - Contract(s) relating to the organisation's energy management system. An energy management system (EMS) is a system of computer-aided tools used by operators of electric utility grids to monitor, control, and optimise the performance of the generation or transmission system.

### **Energy Management System Provider**

1. Annual Spend
2. Contract Duration (Including any extensions)
3. Contract Expiry Date
4. Contract start date
5. Contract Review Date
6. Contract Description – A description of the services provided.
7. Brand of the software
8. Total number of meter points for electricity:
  - a. Non-Half Hourly (NHH) meter points
  - b. Half Hourly (HH) meter points
9. Total number of Gas meter points
10. Total number of meter points for specialist gases and liquids
11. Contact details of the person responsible, including job title

**Answer:**

**Gas and Electricity Contracts:**

1. Energy Provider –

**Gas**

2020/21 – The names of the suppliers have been redacted under Section 38 of the FOI Act (Health and Safety). A copy of the Public Interest Test is attached.

2021/22 – As above

2022/23 – As above

**Electricity**

2020/21 – The names of the suppliers have been redacted under Section 38 of the FOI Act (Health and Safety). A copy of the Public Interest Test is attached.

2021/22 – As above

2022/23 – As above

2. Annual Spend for each provider for the past 3 financial years.

2020/21

**Gas:** £14439.25

**Electricity:** £32238.77

2021/22

**Gas:** £31427.00

**Electricity:** £32720.00

2022/23

**Gas:** £33510.00

**Electricity:** £52288.00

3. Contract Duration (Including any extensions)

**Gas**

2020/21 – 24 months (no extension option)

2021/22 – 24 months (no extension option)

2022/23 – 36 months (no extension option)

**Electricity**

2020/21 - 24 months (no extension option)

2021/22 – 24 months (no extension option)

2022/23 – 36 months (no extension option)

4. Contract start date

**Gas**

2020/21 – 01/04/2019

2021/22 – 01/04/2021

2022/23 – 01/04/2021

**Electricity**

2020/21 – 01/04/2020

2021/22 – 01/04/2020

2022/23 – 01/04/2022

## 5. Contract Expiry Date

### Gas

2020/21 – 31/03/2021

2021/22 – 31/03/2023

2022/23 – 31/03/2023

### Electricity

2020/21 – 31/03/2022

2021/22 – 31/03/2022

2022/23 – 31/03/2025

## 6. Contract Review Dates

### Gas

2020/21 – N/a

2021/22 – N/a

2022/23 – 31/12/2022

### Electricity

2020/21 – N/a

2021/22 – N/a

2022/23 – 31/12/2024

7. N/A. The contracts for gas and electricity are sourced and awarded by the NICS Dept of Finance (Construction and Procurement Delivery) with no input from Board personnel.

8. Total Consumption of Gas, please provide me with the latest figure in cubic metres.

2020/21 – 289861 (kw/h)

2021/22 – 363034 (kw/h)

2022/23 – 322540 (kw/h)

\*Consumption in cubic metres is unavailable\*

9. Total Consumption of Electricity (NHH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.

2020/21 – 199745 (kw/h)

2021/22 – 217420 (kw/h)

2022/23 – 175086.7 (kw/h)

10. Total Consumption of Electricity (HH), please provide me with latest figure in kWh for the past 3 financial years.

2020/21 – N/a

2021/22 – N/a

2022/23 – N/a

11.N/A. The contracts for gas and electricity are sourced and awarded by the NICS Dept of Finance (Construction and Procurement Delivery) with no input from Board personnel.

NIPB does not have direct responsibility for the procurement of contracts, this is the responsibility of the Department of Finance CPD department. I have included their contact details below:

Department of Finance  
Clare House  
303 Airport Road  
Belfast  
BT3 9ED

Email: [foi@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@finance-ni.gov.uk)

### **Energy Management System provider**

The Policing Board's Energy Management System (EMS) is not managed or controlled by the Board. This is managed, controlled and monitored remotely by the Department of Finance. Therefore, all questions relating to the EMS provider, 1 to 11, do not come under the remit of the Board as we do not manage or control this system. This information may be held by the Department of Finance and I have included their contact details below:

Department of Finance  
Clare House  
303 Airport Road  
Belfast  
BT3 9ED

Email: [foi@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@finance-ni.gov.uk)

If you have queries about this request or the decision, please contact the Board quoting the reference number above. If you are unhappy with the service you have received and wish to make a complaint or request a review you should contact the Board's Chief Executive -

Via Email: [foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk](mailto:foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk)

Or in writing at the following address:

Northern Ireland Policing Board  
James House  
Block D  
2 – 4 Cromac Avenue  
The Gasworks  
Belfast  
BT7 2JA

You should contact the Board within 40 working days of this response.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot investigate or make a decision on a case unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Board. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the following web link –

[www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints)

or in writing at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5AF

Telephone: - 0303 1231114

Email: - [ni@ico.org.uk](mailto:ni@ico.org.uk)

Please be advised that Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ [www.nipolicingboard.org.uk](http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk).

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

## Public Interest Test - Section 38 Exemption (Health and Safety)

### **Harm Test**

Disclosure of Supplier names who currently have been awarded a contract with the Policing Board could put those individuals at risk and impact on their safety. As the Policing Board works in a policing environment, release of the suppliers names would also highlight their association with the Policing Board / PSNI and could put their business and employees at risk. Terrorism in Northern Ireland still remains at a severe threat level.

### **Public Interest Test**

#### Factors Favouring Release – Section 38

Releasing the information would promote openness and transparency. There is always a strong public interest in information that relates to the use of public funds and the procurement of services and suppliers.

#### Factors Favouring Retention – Section 38

Having regard to security considerations there are concerns that release of this information would, or would be likely to endanger the physical health and or, the safety of individuals.

Release of this information could be of interest to those looking to commit acts of crime or terrorism.

It is never in the public interest to endanger the health and safety of any individual or group of individuals.

### **Decision**

Whilst accountability surrounding the use of public funds is always a strong argument in favour of releasing information, the balance will always favour retention where there is a risk to the safety of individuals. At this time, there is a severe threat level and to release the names of companies providing a service to the Policing Board could assist criminal elements in targeting these individuals. In this case, therefore the decision must favour not releasing the names of the companies awarded the contract. The safety of individuals is of paramount importance and the Policing Board will not divulge any information which could put lives or property at risk.