

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the council's approach to fire door inspections across its estate and housing portfolio. Please could you provide the following:

- Does the council currently have a formal contract in place for fire door inspections across:
 - a. its housing stock (including general needs and supported housing); and
 - b. its corporate estate (e.g. offices, schools, libraries, leisure centres)?
- 2. If a contract is in place:
 - a. What is the name of the supplier or suppliers appointed to deliver fire door inspections?
 - b. What is the scope of the contract? (e.g. number of properties, estimated number of doors, property types covered)
 - c. What is the contract duration, including start and end dates and any extension options
 - d. What is the pricing structure including the current rate per door inspection?
 - e. Was this contract awarded via a framework or dynamic purchasing system? If so, which one?

Yes the council has a formal contract in place across all its housing stock and this include some of its corporate estate.

- a. The contract has been awarded but the contractor details are financially confidential, however they are a FIRAS registered contractor.
- b. The number of doors covered by the contract is currently circa 3100
- c. Contract will run until September 2025. Then a procurement tender will go out for a new contract through the CHEST.
- d. We confirm that the Council holds this information but is withholding it from disclosure under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 43(2) exempts information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity). Releasing the pricing structure could give competitors an unfair advantage in future tenders and harm the supplier's position in the market. We have consulted with the supplier, who confirmed the pricing structure should not be in the public domain.

While we acknowledge the public interest in transparency, we believe protecting commercial confidentiality outweighs the interest in disclosure.

e. Current contract was award through Fustion21 framework.

See above answer.

3. If no contract is in place:- are there any plans to tender for a formal fire door inspection contract within the next 12 months?