

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/407

Subject: ICB Website Contract Details

I can confirm that the ICB does hold the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
1. The name of the current website provider (organisation name).	Bison Grid Limited
2. The start date and end date of the current website contract.	Start: 1 April 2025 End: 31 March 2026
3. The total contract value (or annual value if the total is not available).	<p>The ICB considers the contract cost commercially sensitive and has applied Section 43(2) to this information.</p> <p>Section 43(2) exempts information whose disclosure would, or be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity). Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to the public interest test.</p> <p>The ICB believes that the ICB's commercial interests would be prejudiced should the information be disclosed.</p> <p><u>ICB's Commercial Interests</u> The website provider contract ends on 31st March 2026 and currently the ICB is considering procurement options. The ICB cannot risk disclosing any information which might prejudice the future procurement.</p> <p><u>Public interest argument in favour of disclosing the information</u></p>

The public interest arguments in favour of disclosing the information taking into account the FOI Act definition of where there is a public interest as well as the legal framework for public authority procurements as set out in the Public Contracts Regulations 2023 that requires the ICB to conduct all procurements activity openly and in a manner which enables behaviour to be scrutinised.

The ICB recognises that the question asks for the amount of public money paid to a company to provide a service. The public will have an interest in confirming that the contract offers value for money.

Public interest arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption

The overriding procurement policy requirement placed on public bodies is that all procurements are based on value for money. The ICB believes that release of the current contract value would prejudice the imminent procurement and this would not be in the public's interest. Prejudice to the procurement could increase costs as part of the procurement process or there could be delays due to financial negotiation or contract challenges. It is in the public's interest that contracts are commissioned at the best value and the ICB believes that disclosure of the current contract value with a procurement pending may affect potential tenders. It is important that procurements are undertaken in a fair manner and disclosure of the current contract value under FOI, may result in an unfair disadvantage for other bidders who may not have seen the FOI response.

Considering the above, the ICB believes that the public interest lies in maintaining the exemption. To disclose the current contract value may affect the upcoming procurement to the detriment of the public purse.

	It is important to note that timing is relevant as the ICB may consider disclosing the information once the contract has been procured.
4. The procurement route used to appoint the supplier (e.g. framework, open tender).	The supplier was originally appointed in 2022 following a competitive tender process where five companies were identified and invited to submit proposals, which were evaluated to inform the final decision.
5. The name and contact information of the person who manages the contract.	Please contact the ICB communications team via the following email address: bnssg.communications@nhs.net

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 20 March 2026 and has been approved for release by Jen Bond, Director of Communications and Engagement for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.