Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Mark Broome
[redacted]

28 October 2026

Dear Mark Broome,

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – FOI2026/26309

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 3 September 2026 and considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information relating to contract CPD4130120 (MHCLG Augmented Planning Decisions, Google Cloud EMEA Ltd, published on Find a Tender as notice 2026/S 000-074578) and the pilot operating in Barnet, Camden and Dorset.

1. Copies of the fortnightly Progress Reports provided by the Supplier to MHCLG under section 24 of the Award Form since the Start Date of 5 May 2026.

2.(a) The record or records accepted for Milestone 4 of the Alpha Phase under Schedule 8 (Implementation Plan and Testing) corresponding to "Defined success criteria, performance metrics, and Alpha test plan"; (b) any signed Satisfaction Certificate required before moving from the Alpha Phase to the Beta & Scale Phase, as referred to in Schedule 4 (Supplier Tender) at page 72; (c) any record of Achievement for Milestone 10 ("Completion of Alpha Testing") and any formal record of the decision on moving to the Beta & Scale Phase.

3. Any Statement of Work for the Alpha Phase or the Beta & Scale Phase, or the parts of one, that set out "the specific metrics used to evaluate the Solution's effectiveness" as described in Schedule 4 (Supplier Tender) at page 40.

4. Any report, dashboard extract or dataset held by MHCLG recording (a) the "baseline data through time recording of current workflows" referred to in Schedule 4 at page 15, or (b) the number of applications decided within the four-week target, the override rate or the alignment rate described on the same page.

If any part of this request would exceed the cost limit under section 12, please advise which part and provide the remainder. Where an exemption is applied to any document, I would be grateful if you would confirm whether the document exists.

If you require clarification, I would be grateful for advice and assistance under section 16. Please respond by email to this address.

Please find below the Department's answer to each part of your information request.

1. Copies of the fortnightly Progress Reports provided by the Supplier to MHCLG under section 24 of the Award Form since the Start Date of 5 May 2026.

We are writing to advise you that, following a search of our records, the information you requested is not held by the Department.

2.(a) The record or records accepted for Milestone 4 of the Alpha Phase under Schedule 8 (Implementation Plan and Testing) corresponding to "Defined success criteria, performance metrics, and Alpha test plan.

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) as it is going to be published and it is reasonable not to make it available until then.

Information falling within this exemption must still be provided however unless it is not in the public interest to do so.

There will always be some general public interest in the disclosure of information in a timely manner in order to promote transparency and accountability of public authorities.

However, we must also consider that there is a settled intention to publish this information in due course. The public interest in favour of not disclosing at this time, taking account of the settled intention to publish, is to allow the relevant officials time to complete the preparation of the information to ensure it is accurate and correct prior to publication.

We have therefore decided that, on balance, it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this time.

2.(b) Any signed Satisfaction Certificate required before moving from the Alpha Phase to the Beta & Scale Phase, as referred to in Schedule 4 (Supplier Tender) at page 72.

We are writing to advise you that, following a search of our records, the information you requested is not held by the Department.

2.(c) Any record of Achievement for Milestone 10 ("Completion of Alpha Testing") and any formal record of the decision on moving to the Beta & Scale Phase.

We are writing to advise you that, following a search of our records, the information you requested is not held by the Department.

3. Any Statement of Work for the Alpha Phase or the Beta & Scale Phase, or the parts of one, that set out "the specific metrics used to evaluate the Solution's effectiveness" as described in Schedule 4 (Supplier Tender) at page 40.

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Yours sincerely,

MHCLG FOIA Team

Complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with this response, we will review it and report back to you (this is called an internal review). If you want us to do this, let us know by return email within 40 working days of receiving this response. You can also ask by letter addressed to:

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Transparency & Data Protection Team
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

If you are still not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by the Department.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted via their online form at ico.org.uk/concerns or call them on 0303 123 1113.