



**Money &
Pensions
Service**

Via Email Only

24 February 2021

Freedom of Information Ref No. FOI40

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 27 January 2021.

You asked the Money and Pensions Service the following:

“Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) I would like to request some information. Contact details for the following or most senior equivalent roles. What primary software systems do you use? What computing devices do you provide for your staff? Information about our Infrastructure Services”

Money and Pensions Service Response:

I can confirm the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) holds information relevant to your request but some of the information is exempt under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The contact details you have requested is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. The Data Protection Act 1998 requires the processing of personal data to be fair and lawful. In such circumstances Section 40 (2) and (3) of the FOIA applies. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. Section 40 relates to an absolute exemption on disclosure and therefore the public interest test does not apply. However, please feel free to contact MaPS Chief Technology Officer, [REDACTED] to discuss any questions you may have. You can write to him at enquiries@maps.org.uk

With regards to questions: What primary software systems do you use? And what computing devices do you provide for your staff? Section 31 of the FOIA applies to the majority of information requested. Section 31 protects the work of law enforcement agencies. It also covers information held by public authorities without any specific law enforcement responsibilities. It can be applied as in this case to withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime. Section 31 is a prejudice-based exemption and is subject to the public interest test. This means we are required to consider whether maintaining the exemption is in the public interest.

We recognise there is a legitimate public interest in promoting transparency in the services we provide at MaPS, however it is important to highlight that releasing this data would make MaPS more vulnerable to crime; namely, a malicious attack on its computer systems. After carefully considering the balance of the public interest, MaPS is of the view that the public interest lies in maintaining the exemption. We believe releasing this information would make MaPS computer systems more susceptible to hacking and other forms of cybercrime. Therefore, we are withholding the majority of information you requested.

I have provided details regarding MaPS Infrastructure Services and the information which is not exempt in a separate document enclosed with this letter. I hope this information is helpful.

Money and Pensions Service

120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TD t: +44 (0)115 9659570 w: MoneyAndPensionsService.org.uk





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If you have any queries about my response to your request do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communication.

Yours sincerely,



Complaints & Freedom of Information Officer

Encl. MaPS IT Information

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you can ask for an internal review by e-mailing foi@maps.org.uk or by writing to Money and Pensions Service, 120 Holborn, London, EC1N 2TD. Any review request should be sent within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF
<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/> or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745