

Section 27(1) – information intended for future publication

An exemption under section 27(1) of FOISA applies because the cost of contracted services for Glow will be included in the annual accounts for 2019-20, which we intend to publish within 12 weeks of the date of your request. We consider that it is reasonable to withhold the information until that date, rather than release this information before the planned publication date.

This exemption is subject to the 'public interest test'. Therefore, taking account of all the circumstances of this case, we have considered if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption.

We recognise that there is some public interest in release with regard to transparency but the information requested will be met by our planned publication schedule, following our regular approvals process and our statutory duty to lay our annual accounts in Parliament before they are published. There is a greater public interest in taking the time necessary to ensure the information has been properly collated, checked and approved before it is published as planned. We have found that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exemption.