

Freedom of Information – Response – 27474

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information relating to your organisation's workforce and staffing expenditure for the most recently completed financial year.

Please could you provide the following information:

1. Total Workforce Spend

Please provide the total annual workforce spend across the authority, including agency workers, contractors, interim managers, permanent recruitment, staff banks and outsourced workforce services.

We can confirm that Suffolk County Council holds this information. However, the information is readily accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain. **Section 21** of the FOIA states that a public authority does not need to provide information under section 1 of the Act if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.

Link to Statement of Accounts, see Employee and Funding Analysis Note 5 on page 28.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/statement-of-accounts-2025-2026.pdf>

2. Current Workforce Suppliers

Please provide a list of workforce suppliers used during the last financial year, including total spend with each supplier.

Below is the spend for the last year on two contracts held with HR for agency workers.

Opus People Solutions - temporary spend financial year 2025/26. £7,353,520.

Tile Hill - temporary spend for calendar year 2025 is £1,259,151.

Fees paid to Tile Hill for sourcing candidates for permanent roles. £21,651.30

3. Managed Service Provider (MSP), Neutral Vendor or RPO Arrangements

Please provide details of any current MSP, Neutral Vendor or Recruitment Process Outsourcing (RPO) arrangements, including:

- *Supplier name*
- *Contract start date*
- *Contract expiry date*

See details below

Supplier name: Opus People Solutions (MSP)

Contract start date: 30/05/2014

Contract expiry date: NA*

**The Opus People Solutions contract was not procured through an external framework. Instead, it was awarded under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 Regulation 12 (TECKAL) exemption because Opus People Solutions is a wholly owned company of Suffolk County Council (via Suffolk Group Holdings). This means no competitive procurement process was required. The contract commenced on 30 May 2014. As Opus is*

a wholly owned company, the arrangement operates on a rolling basis with no fixed end date, under the TECKAL exemption. Opus People Solutions is a master vendor.

4. Workforce Technology Solutions

Please provide details of any Vendor Management System (VMS), Staff Bank Platform or workforce technology solution currently in use, including:

- *Supplier name*
- *Contract expiry date*

None

5. Top Workforce Suppliers

Please provide the top ten workforce suppliers by spend during the last financial year.

6. Contract Renewal Opportunities

Please provide details of any workforce-related contracts due to expire within the next 24 months, including:

- *Contract description*
- *Incumbent supplier*
- *Contract expiry date*

HR are aware of Opus People Solutions and Tile Hill workforce suppliers. Please note, there could be other agencies used across the Council, these are the ones that have come through HR.

7. Procurement Frameworks

Please confirm which procurement framework(s) are currently used for workforce and recruitment services.

None

8. Responsible Department

Please confirm which department is responsible for workforce procurement (e.g. Procurement, HR, Workforce Planning or Commercial Services).

Suffolk County Council Human Resources.