

Freedom of Information Request – Response – 27724

I am writing to request the following recorded information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to your organisation's IT Asset Management, Procurement and IT Asset Disposal (ITAD) arrangements.

1. IT Asset Inventory

Please provide the current number of:

- Desktop PCs

299

- Laptops

6074

- Tablets

124

- Mobile phones/smartphones

3323

- Servers

276 Virtual, 22 Physical

Where recorded, please also provide the manufacturer and model of these devices.

Suffolk County Council (SCC) can confirm that it holds this information however, it is being withheld under s.31 (Law Enforcement) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

s.31 enables a public authority to withhold information that would or would be likely to prejudice the prevention of detection of crime if disclosed.

Disclosure under FOIA is considered disclosure to the world at large. Releasing details information about the manufacturer and model of the devices used at SCC would provide additional technical information about SCC's IT estate. This information could then be used by those with malicious intent to identify potential vulnerabilities, develop targeted attacks or otherwise attempt to gain unauthorised access to SCC systems and information.

The Information Commissioners Office (ICO) recognises that s.31 can apply where disclosure would make an organisation more vulnerable to crime and that public authorities may withhold information where disclosure could harm efforts to prevent or detect crime.

SCC therefore considers that disclosing this information would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime and that s.31 is engaged.

Whilst we have determined that s.31 is engaged it is also a qualified exemption and requires us to carry out a public interest test.

Factors in favour of Release:

- Promotes openness and transparency regarding the Council's ICT assets.
- Enables greater public understanding of the equipment used by the Council.

Factors in Favour of Withholding:

- There is a strong public interest in protecting the Council's systems, networks and information assets from criminal activity.
- Disclosure would provide additional intelligence that could assist cyber criminals in identifying and exploiting vulnerabilities.
- The Council holds significant volumes of information and personal data which it has a duty to protect.
- There is a strong public interest in avoiding the costs, disruption and risks associated with cyber attacks, including impacts on public services.

Having considered the public interest test SCC has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure and as such we are withholding the manufacturer and model number of SCC devices.

2. Device Refresh

Please provide:

- *The standard refresh cycle for laptops, desktops, tablets, mobile phones and servers.*
- *The date (or expected date) of the next planned hardware refresh programme, if recorded.*
- *The number of devices scheduled for replacement during the next 12 months, if recorded.*

There is no active refresh cycle. All assets are used until they are no longer serviceable.

3. IT Asset Disposal (ITAD)

Please provide:

- *The name of your current ITAD supplier.*

Network 2 Supplies

- *The contract award date.*

Sept 2025

- *The contract expiry date.*

Aug 2028

- *Any available extension options.*

Yes, 12 months

- *The total contract value.*

£20,000

- *Whether the contract was awarded through a procurement framework. If so, please state the framework used.*

G-Cloud 14 framework

4. Hardware Procurement

Please provide:

- The supplier(s) of end-user devices.
- Whether end-user devices are owned, leased, or supplied under a Device as a Service (DaaS) arrangement.

Owned

- The procurement framework(s) used for hardware purchases, where applicable.

HTE-011233 (ESEE ICT) Framework

5. Data Destruction

Please provide:

- The data sanitisation standard used (for example, NIST SP 800-88), where recorded.

NCSC CAS-S certified sanitisation and destruction

- Whether certificates of data destruction are required.

Yes

- Whether encrypted drives are securely erased or physically destroyed in accordance with your policy.

Erased where possible, if not physically destroyed

6. Sustainability

Please provide:

- Whether you have a policy to maximise reuse before recycling.
- If recorded, the proportion or number of retired devices that are:
 - Reused internally
 - Refurbished for reuse
 - Recycled
 - Destroyed

All devices are refurbished and reused internally and disposed only when the device is past the point of repair. The only exception to this rule was when Windows 11 was released and Suffolk County Council had a subset of devices that did not meet the specification.

As this is standard process, the numbers are not recorded.

7. Asset Disposal Volumes

Please provide, for each of the last two financial years, the number of the following assets disposed of:

- Desktop PCs
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Servers
- Mobile phones/smartphones

Disposals list for financial year 2024-25,

Desktop PCs - 14

Laptops - 578

Tablets - 78

Servers - 0

Mobile / Smart phones - 567

Disposals list for financial year 2025-26

Desktop PCs - 32

Laptops - 1224

Tablets - 365

Servers - 1

Mobile / Smart phones - 664

8. Contract Management

Please provide:

- *The job title responsible for managing the ITAD contract.*

Product Manager Core Technology

- *The department responsible for IT asset disposal.*

IT

- *The expected contract review or re-tender date, if recorded.*

May 2028

9. Financial Recovery

Please provide:

- *Whether your current ITAD provider offers revenue sharing or rebates for reusable equipment.*

Rebates

- *The total value of any rebates received during the last financial year, if recorded.*

None