

**From:** Freedom of Information

**Sent:** 21 September 2020 15:54

**To:**

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/329)

Dear

**Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/329)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 28 August 2020 reference K/20/329.

Your request read:

“Are you running an Oracle or SAP ERP solution?  
If so, what version are they currently running on and which modules are you using?  
Are you planning to upgrade in the next 12-18 months?  
Do you have plans to move to a SAAS model?  
Do you have plans to migrate our current ERP to a cloud Solution?  
Do you run Oracle Databases?  
If so what versions, are you planning an upgrade in the next 12 – 18 months?  
Do you own perpetual Oracle Licences, do you Pay Oracle directly or through a shared service or other framework?  
Do you own Perpetual SAP Licences, do you Pay SAP directly or through a shared service or other framework?  
What is the value of the SAP Support contract and when does it renew?  
What is the value of the Oracle support contract and when does it renew?  
Who is commercially responsible for looking after the contract for the Oracle and/or SAP renewals?  
Do you currently work with any SAP or Oracle third party support providers?”

The University of Leeds holds this information. For your convenience, we have responded to each of your questions in turn below.

**Are you running an Oracle or SAP ERP solution?**

Yes; SAP is our ERP system

**If so, what version are they currently running on and which modules are you using?**

SAP ECC6 , EHP7 Modules MM, BC,PA, FI, PS, CO, PY, PT, PSM, CA, LO, PE, PM, SD, EC,PP

**Are you planning to upgrade in the next 12-18 months?**

No plans at present

**Do you have plans to move to a SAAS model?**

No plans at present

**Do you have plans to migrate our current ERP to a cloud Solution?**

No plans at present

**Do you run Oracle Databases? If so what versions, are you planning an upgrade in the next 12 – 18 months?**

Yes, V12.1 and yes planned to upgrade

**Do you own perpetual Oracle Licences, do you Pay Oracle directly or through a shared service or other framework?**

We do own perpetual licenses. We purchase our licenses through Softcat.

**Do you own Perpetual SAP Licences, do you Pay SAP directly or through a shared service or other framework?**

We do own perpetual licenses. We pay SAP directly.

**What is the value of the SAP Support contract and when does it renew?**

**What is the value of the Oracle support contract and when does it renew?**

We address these questions together. We consider that the information held by the University in relation to these questions engages the exemption set out at section 43(2) of the FOI Act. Section 43(2) sets out that information is exempt from disclosure if its release would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person or organisation, unless there is an overwhelming public interest in disclosure.

Both contracts are due to be retendered soon. To provide the exact contract value would jeopardise the commercial interests of the incumbent provider, by allowing competitor organisations to undercut the price. This would be unfair to the incumbent provider. It would also not be in the interests of the University of Leeds; although it could be argued that a lower-cost contract is preferable, less expensive does not necessarily equate to better value. In fact, a bid which is designed simply to undercut the existing contract rather than being based on its own merits is likely to be a false economy.

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, which means we are required to consider whether the public interest in the information outweighs the prejudice which would or would be likely to be caused as a result of disclosure. We do not consider there to be any particular public interest in the disclosure of this information. Conversely, there is a strong public interest in ensuring that the University can secure contracts which give value for money. As such, we conclude that the public interest in this case is in favour of withholding the information.

**Who is commercially responsible for looking after the contract for the Oracle and/or SAP renewals?**

This is managed between the IT and Purchasing departments. If you are interested in tendering for future contracts please refer to our [Information for Suppliers](#) webpages.

**Do you currently work with any SAP or Oracle third party support providers?**

We work with SAP and Oracle directly if needed, and through Softcat for oracle support. We do not use any third party Oracle support for the Banner system.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on [foi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:foi@leeds.ac.uk)

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle  
Deputy Secretary  
The University of Leeds  
Leeds  
LS2 9JT

Email: [foi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:foi@leeds.ac.uk)

Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University's response to your request. Further information about how the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website ([www.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.leeds.ac.uk)).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Kind regards

**Chloe Wilkins**  
Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat  
University of Leeds