

23 January 2018
Our ref: FOI/27/12/17

Re: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, which we received on 27 December 2017.

You requested the following information:

- 1) The software used by the Media/Communications team to manage press enquiries, send press releases and maintain a press contacts database. Please specify the value and length of any contracts associated with the tools you use.
- 2) The software used by the Media/Communications team to monitor the media. Please specify the value and length of any contracts associated with the tools you use.
- 3) The software used by the Media/Communications team to manage and store interactions with stakeholders (e.g. the media, regulators, government agencies, the community, the public). Please specify the value and length of any contracts associated with the tools you use.
- 4) The software used by the Public Affairs or any other relevant team to monitor the political environment and Parliament and log interactions with politicians, civil servants, lobbying bodies, trade unions, etc.
- 5) Please specify the value and length of any contracts associated with the tools you use.

We can confirm that we hold this information. In answer to your questions:

- 1) The OBR uses applications within the standard Microsoft Office package to manage press enquiries and press releases.
- 2) The OBR uses applications within the standard Microsoft Office package to monitor the media. We also use the free tools available from websites such as Twitter and Google.
- 3) The OBR uses applications within the standard Microsoft Office package to manage and store interactions with stakeholders.
- 4) The OBR uses applications within the standard Microsoft Office package to monitor the political environment and Parliament and log interactions with politicians, civil servants, lobbying bodies, trade unions, etc. We also use the free tools available from websites such as Twitter and Google.
- 5) We do not have any contracts for the use of any specialist software of this type. We share an office and IT network with the Ministry of Justice.

If you have any other queries about this letter, please send them to our enquiries inbox at obrenquiries@obr.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Unit
Office for Budget Responsibility

Copy right notice

Most documents supplied in response to a Freedom of Information request continue to be protected by copyright. You are free to use these documents for your information, including for any non-commercial research you may be doing. Documents can also be used for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Government officials will have produced most documents supplied by the OBR and so the information will be Crown Copyright. Crown Copyright is managed by HMSO and you can find out details on the arrangements for re-using Crown Copyright on <http://www.hmso.gov.uk/copyright/licences/click-use-home.htm>

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review by writing to OBR Enquiries, Office for Budget Responsibility, 14T, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ or by email to obr.enquiries@obr.gsi.gov.uk.

Any review request must be made within 2 months of the date of this letter.

It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

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