

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTHB_302_16

You asked:

1. Which Web Filtering Solution do you currently have implemented at the institution?

Web Marshal.

2. Who was this purchased through?

Softbox Ltd.

3. How many users does your web filter support and which other institutions do you provide filtering to?

All of Cwm Taf University Health Board – approx 7869 users.

4. How much is the current contract value and how many years does this cover?

The contract is for 3 years.

The contract value has been withheld under Section 43 – Commercial Interests of the Freedom of Information Act. This section of the Act sets out an exemption from the right to know if:

- the information requested is a trade secret, or
- release of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. (A person may be an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).

This exemption was considered by the Health Board when deciding whether to release this information because it was felt that in doing so it could be a significant risk in prejudicing the commercial interests of the company in question. However, as this is a qualified exemption, the Health Board must carry out the public interest in deciding whether it is in the public's interest to withhold or disclose the information.

The Health Board accepts that there is a public interest in ensuring openness and transparency and there is an interest in the public being aware of how much money is spent and the benefits derived from that expenditure. However, the Health Board believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests and relationships arising in a commercial context could have

the effect of discouraging companies from dealing with the Health Board because of fears that the disclosure of information could damage them commercially. In turn this could then jeopardise the Health Boards ability to compete fairly and pursue its function to bring forward development in the area and obtain value for money, especially as this service has recently gone out to tender. It was therefore decided that it was not in the publics' interest to disclose this information.

5. When is the Web Filtering contract due to expire?

February 2018.

6. Which individual is currently in charge of evaluating and renewing web filtering solutions?

A security group will evaluate and renew solutions, comprising of ICT and Procurement staff.