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In your request you have asked for the following information under the FOI Act:

“A list of contract holders, ordered by the amount of spend, who have Standard Civil Contracts to deliver public law services in Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and London during the period February to July 2011. Please include a list of any branch offices within the above areas where public law work is carried out (even if the lead office (contract holder) is not within the areas listed above).”

I can confirm that the LSC holds the information you have requested and this is attached at **Annex A**.

When reviewing this data please consider the following points by way of background:

- The data reported is correct according to our systems as of 3 October 2011 and relates to current contract holders. The figures may not be directly comparable over time, due to changes in the way that data is recorded and updated, different claiming mechanisms for the various legal aid schemes as well as the complex nature of the LSC's management information and IT systems;
- The legal aid providers listed are contracted to carry out work in procurement areas rather than counties. The information shown therefore relates to providers in the London, South, Eastern and South East procurement areas as this most closely matches the data you have requested; for your additional reference we have also included details of Local Authority locations;
- The information relates to offices rather than firms and a firm may have more than one office;
- Providers who are shown as having made no claims within the time period you have requested data for may have ongoing work that is not yet complete and cannot therefore be billed.

Please also be advised that as the response to your request names individual providers and displays financial information about them, we are publishing the annex on our website in parallel to disclosing the data to you.