

Jeremy Corbyn MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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Dear Mr Corbyn

As Director General for the Office for National Statistics (ONS) I have been asked to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking which companies were considered to undertake data processing for the 2011 Census prior to the award of the contract (48387).

Data processing is a part of the contract to provide operational services for the 2011 Census. A number of expressions of interest were received with BT, CMC Limited, Lockheed Martin UK Limited and T-Systems Limited passing pre-qualification. Subsequently Lockheed Martin UK provided the best technical solutions offering overall best value for money for the taxpayer.

Under the Lockheed Martin UK contract, data processing services have been subcontracted to UK Data Capture which is running the data processing operation at a specially commissioned site in Manchester.

ONS carried out a fully compliant procurement in accordance with the requirements of European law and the European Union Procurement Directives, which have been incorporated into English law. The foundations of the rules are fairness and transparency. Any organisation with the correct technical capability, financial stability and experience therefore has the opportunity to compete openly for Government business throughout the European Union without discrimination.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Penneck
Director General for ONS