



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10339

Date Received: 26th November 2024

Response Due: 24th December 2024

Date: 24th December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26th November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I would like to submit the following Freedom of Information request:-

1. Capital Procurement Costs:

“For each MRI/CT/Mammography scanners procured between April 1, 2024, and today, please provide the capital purchase price, manufacturer, model, and procurement method (e.g., direct purchase, NHSSC tender). If possible, include the installation date and the department or facility where the equipment is installed.”

The Trust did not procure any MRI, CT or Mammography scanners during 01/04/2024 and 26/11/2024.

2. Service and Maintenance Contracts:

“For each MRI/CT/Mammography scanners currently in use, please provide the annual service and maintenance costs for the fiscal years 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24. Include details of the service provider (internal or external), the scope of the maintenance agreement (e.g., parts, labor, uptime guarantees), and any additional service fees.”

Please see attached document.

3. Please list all current contracts with suppliers for diagnostic imaging equipment, specifying the supplier name, equipment type, contract start and end dates, total contract value, and any agreed-upon service level agreements (SLAs). If certain contracts cover multiple types of equipment, please break down the information by equipment type where possible.”

Please see attached document.

Section 43(2) – Commercial interests

Information regarding annual maintenance costs in question 3 have been withheld under section 43(2) of the FOIA if its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

Section 43 of the FOIA is a qualified exemption and is subject to the Prejudice Test and the Public Interest Test.

Prejudice test

We confirm that we have carried out a full prejudice test and that, on the balance of probability, the Trust's interests would be prejudiced in the event of disclosure. Therefore, we confirm that the Prejudice Test is engaged.

Public interest test

We have also carried out the Public Interest Test to ascertain whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the public interest in withholding the requested information:

Public interest in disclosure of the information:

- We acknowledge that there is public interest in transparency around how the Trust engages with suppliers and procurement.
- We acknowledge that there is public interest in the Trust's finances.

Public interest in withholding of the information:

- **Protecting public finances** – As a public authority, the Trust must ensure that it obtains the best value for money. Disclosure of the information would be likely to affect the quality of future offers provided to the Trust. It is therefore firmly in the public interest not to disclose any information which would affect commercial offers made to the Trust, which in turn will affect the Trust's finances.
- **Ensuring fair competition** – Information provided to the Trust during the procurement process contains sensitive competition information. It is not in the public interest to disclose information which would affect free and fair competition.
- **Transparency** – We understand that there is public interest in how the Trust engages with suppliers. However, we consider that the information held by the Trust would not significantly further the public understanding of its relationship with these suppliers beyond what has already been disclosed in this response.
- **Reputation damage or loss of confidence** - It is firmly in the public interest that the Trust takes all steps to protect its reputation around information handling. It is not in the public interest to do anything which would jeopardise our ability to maintain strong working relationships with third parties.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Hazel Hendriksen
Divisional Director of Operations for Specialist Services

PLEASE NOTE:

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 should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111