



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9

Buckingham Row

Brick Kiln Lane

Wigan

WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/9614

Date Received: 9th February 2024

Response Due: 8th March 2024

Date: 8th March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 9th February 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:

1. Which pathology network are you a part of?

Please see redirection below

2. We would like to get some information on your LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System), MIS (Maternity Information System) and OIS (Oncology Information System). For each, if applicable, please can you provide:

- a. **Supplier name**
- b. **System name**
- c. **Contract start date**
- d. **Contract expiration date**
- e. **Details on any current plans to replace the system**
- f. **Total value of the contract**
- g. **Annual spend on the service**
- h. **LIMS only: What was your annual budget for digitalised histopathology (2020 – 2024)?**
- i. **MIS only: Is the MIS hospital only or integrated across hospital and community?**

Please see attached.

Section 43(2) – Commercial interests

Information regarding total annual spend, maintenance cost, training costs and installation has 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 Canon 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.

For Q1 and LIMS please redirect your questions to:

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust have joined forces to create a joint pathology service called Pathology at Wigan and Salford.

This information should be held by Salford Royal NHS FT. Please submit a request to them by emailing FOIrequest@srft.nhs.uk or informationsecurity&dataprotection@srft.nhs.uk,

For OIS please redirect your query to:

The Christie NHS Foundation Trust
Wilmslow Road

Manchester
M20 4BX
United Kingdom

FOI requests

Information Governance Officer
Tel: 0161 446 3000
Email: FOI@christie.nhs.uk

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,



Tabitha Gardner
Chief Finance Officer

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