



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/2023/9243

Date Received: 22nd September 2023

Response Due: 17th November 2023

Date: 9th November 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

1. Who is your current supplier of linen and laundry services.

Synergy LMS

2. Which supplier site is your linen delivered from.

Mere Grange, St. Helens, Merseyside.

3. Does the supplier and the site that processes your linen hold EN14065 accreditation to demonstrate compliance with HTM01-04 (previously called CFPP01-04).

Yes

4. When this contract was last tendered.

September 2019

5. What was the OJEU reference number for the tender or the framework reference.

NHS/14/HB/8551.

6. When is your contract up for retender.

September 2026.

7. What is your annual spend on linen and laundry services with your supplier.

2022-23 = £863,442

8. What is the weekly volume of number of linen pieces required by your hospital/s (Linen pieces can include all items on linen hire and trust owned).

This response serves as a Refusal Notice under Section 43 of The Freedom of Information Act.

Section 43(2) - Commercial interests.

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and subject to the prejudice test and the public interest test. Under the prejudice test we have to consider if disclosure of this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice our commercial interests or the commercial interests of a third party. Consideration is also given to the harm disclosing this information would be likely to cause, combined with other information already in the public domain (mosaic effect) or possibly released at a future date (precedent effect). The public interest test considers and balances the public interest in disclosing this information against the public interest in not disclosing this information and uses this assessment to decide whether there is sufficient justification in withholding this information under this exemption.

Information disclosed under the FOIA is considered to be public information, and while there is a presumption towards disclosure, consideration needs to be given as to who will have access to this information beyond the requestor and the purposes for which they could use the information.

Prejudice to commercial interests

The Trust has examined the impact of releasing the information withheld under Section 43 (2) in order to decide if disclosure would be likely to prejudice our commercial interests or the commercial interests of a third party. The information required to provide a response to this question is contractually confidential and would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of ourselves and those who intend to tender for this service.

9. Who is the key contact for the linen contract at your hospital (name, position and email address)

Mr Nick Bastow, Facilities Manager.

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members as a large number of unsolicited emails/telephone calls could cause disruption to work by blocking email accounts/telephone lines and thereby preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

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 Garnder
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