

FOI REF: 22/349

19th July 2022

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I would like to know (segmented by hospital):

1. The process which the hospital follows for end-of-life equipment

Equipment is end of life when the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) withdraws full support. Notification is followed up by updating the equipment management database and capital being bided for to replace the devices.

2. The process by which the hospital decides that an equipment has reached its end of life

Equipment is end of life when the OEM withdraws full support. Notification is followed up by updating the equipment management database and capital being bided for to replace the devices – note that 3rd party suppliers are investigated to establish if support can be extended pending capital being made available.

3. Which companies the hospital works with in order to dispose of / sell off / repurpose... medical equipment

The Trust is in contract to dispose of all medical equipment via the successful company awarded the contract.

4. The past data which the hospital has on where equipment has gone

All equipment is registered on the medical device database as disposed.

5. The data on which medical equipment that the hospital has which is about to reach its end of life

The Trust equipment management database has all asset details registered.

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6. The data on which medical equipment the hospital currently has, when it was sourced and where it was sourced from, at what price

The Trust equipment management database has all asset details registered including make, model, category, installation date, obsolesce date, purchase price, depreciation, registered site and location, status of equipment date changes to name a few for the entire fleet of reusable medical devices.

The definition of medical equipment would include:

- 1: Storage and Transport Medical Equipment**
- 2: Durable Medical Equipment (e.g. hospital beds)**
- 3: Diagnostic Medical Equipment (imaging machines e.g. Xray, CT scanners, Ultrasound)**
- 4: Electronic Medical Equipment (e.g. patient monitors)**
- 5: Surgical Medical Equipment (e.g. surgical tables)**

The definition would not include:

- 6: Single use Acute Care (trays, wound kits, blood bottles, syringes)**
- 7: Procedural Medical Equipment (e.g. surgical clamps, scalpels, gloves, forceps)**
- 8: Other disposable, single use equipment**

A general guide if the item is not covered by the above list would be that if the item has a high RRP price (e.g. unit price greater than 500 GBP) and is not single use/disposable then it should be considered medical equipment for the purposes of this request.

If the item is sold/repurposed/re-used to another company then it should be included.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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