



FOI REF: 23/308

30th May 2023

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

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:

We understand that some employees of your organisation are in possession of "Lone Worker Devices", a type of panic alarm to call for help in an emergency.

The information we seek is:

1. How many devices do you have?

East Sussex Healthcare has 700 devices and 300 apps.

2. What is the annual cost to the borough for the devices?

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is applying a Section 43(2) exemption in relation to this part of the request as the release of the information is likely to prejudice commercial interests of third parties. This is because release of the information could be detrimental to their competitive position in the market.

In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.

We have concluded that by sharing the pricing detail could cause harm to the Trust by not gaining best value for money for future contracts.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

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- 3. Was this purchase made as a result of a tender, or was it a direct purchase (if the former, could you please provide the tender details)?**

This was awarded through the NHS Framework.

- 4. When did the project begin?**

2019.

- 5. Who was the project manager running this purchase?**

Trust lead for Health and Safety.

- 6. What was the original motivation behind the need for such devices?**

An additional measure of staff safety when working away from a Trust site.

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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