

FOI REF: 23/515

31st August 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:

1) **Technology-enabled virtual wards remote monitoring services contract(s):**

- a) **Is there a single remote monitoring services provider across all East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust technology-enabled virtual wards, or are there multiple providers?**

[A single provider for Virtual Wards.](#)

- b) **Who is/are the contracted remote monitoring services provider(s) for technology-enabled virtual wards?**

[Current Health.](#)

- c) **Does the contract(s) cover only licenses or telehealth equipment/kit, logistics services, etc, if so, which ones are included?**

[The contract covers licences, equipment, online platform dashboard, support and technical services.](#)

- d) **What is a contract(s) Value (£)?**

[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 its commercial interests.](#)

[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 providing the contract value could cause harm to the Trust as this could distort the market-place and therefore, result in the Trust not obtaining best value for money.

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

e) What is the contract(s) Start Date?

1st April 2022.

f) What is the contract(s) Length (in months, years, please specify the term)?

12 months.

g) Who is the contracting authority?

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust Virtual Ward programme lead alongside Digital team and in accordance with Sussex ICS wide approach to procurement.

h) Procurement type (e.g., direct award via CCS framework, call-off from a dynamic purchasing system, open procedure, etc.)?

Co-operative purchasing within Sussex ICS.

2) If there is no contract(s) in place, but technology-enabled virtual wards remote monitoring services are/were provided as a pilot programme, please provide the information:

a) Is/was this pilot funded through the Sussex Health and Care ICB, or is/was the funding allocated directly to East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust or any collaboratives, if so, which one?

b) Who is/was the selected remote monitoring services provided for this pilot?

c) What is/was the pilot Value (£)?

d) What is/was the pilot Start Date?

e) What is/was the pilot Length (in months, years, please specify the term)?

Not applicable.

3) If there is a technology-enabled virtual ward remote monitoring service contract(s), but exemptions in FOIA protect the information due to the organisation entering a contract with a third-party contractor with confidentiality clauses (or on an expressly confidential basis). In that case, this shouldn't prevent disclosure under transparency obligations, for example, to publish spend data, so please provide the following information:

a) What is the Value (£) spent on remote monitoring for virtual wards?

b) What is the spent term monthly, quarterly, or annual?

Not applicable.

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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