

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 2UD

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

FOI REF: 23/655

6th February 2024

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 am seeking information related to the clinical insourcing companies that your Trust currently uses, the services provided by these companies, the expenditure on each service with each supplier during the previous financial year, and the expiry dates of the contracts or agreements with each supplier.

To assist you in processing this request, please find below the specific details of the information I am seeking:

1) The names of the clinical insourcing companies or suppliers currently engaged by your Trust.

InHealth Elective Services

2) For each clinical insourcing company or supplier, please provide details of the specific services they are contracted to provide to the Trust.

InHealth Elective Services Endoscopy Cardiac Physiology – Echo

3) The total expenditure made by your Trust with each clinical insourcing company or supplier for each service during the previous financial year ending March 2023.

The information you have requested is exempt under section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because the information would originally have been provided in confidence. Information is exempt information if –

- (a) it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and,
- (b) the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person.

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is also 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 spend 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.

4) The expiry date of each contract or agreement that your Trust has with each clinical insourcing company or supplier for the services in question.

InHealth Elective Services 15th May 2030 30th June 2024

5) The specific framework/contracting method used to procure the insourcing services used.

InHealth	Tender Process
Elective Services	Framework
	SBS/18/CW/ZOC/9314

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 (<u>esh-tr.foi@nhs.net</u>), 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 <u>esh-tr.foi@nhs.net</u>