



East Sussex Healthcare

NHS Trust

FOI REF: 24/634

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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17th September 2024

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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:

1. **Compliance with Public Contracts Regulations 2015: Please provide information on how the Trust ensures that the awarding of contracts under Lot 1 of the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework adheres to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.**

The Trust is not using the NHS Workforce Alliance RM6281 Clinical Staffing Framework. When the Trust Awards Contracts under a Framework, it does so in line with the Framework Agreement Terms and Conditions ensuring adherence to Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR15) regulations.

2. **Non-discrimination and Fairness: How does the Trust ensure that it does not discriminate or act unfairly towards suppliers when selecting contractors under this framework?**

Not applicable.

3. **Supplier Invitation: Does the Trust invite all approved suppliers under the framework to bid or supply services, as stipulated by the framework's rules? If so, could you provide evidence or examples of this process in practice?**

Not applicable.

4. **Supplier Selection Process: Please outline the legal justification the Trust uses when selecting certain suppliers while excluding others under the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework.**

Not applicable.

5. **Compliance with Selection Criteria: Could you explain the process by which suppliers are selected under the framework, particularly concerning ensuring compliance with the selection criteria set out in the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015?**

Not applicable.

6. **Further Competition Process:** Could you describe the process your Trust follows for further competition under the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework? Specifically, do you use direct awards, or do you invite suppliers for further competition for Lot 1? Please provide evidence to support your response.

Not applicable.

7. **Evidence of Compliance:** Kindly provide any documentation or evidence demonstrating how the Trust ensures compliance with the aforementioned regulations and framework rules when awarding contracts under Lot 1 for the provision of temporary nurses and clinical staffing.

Not applicable.

8. **Legal Queries and Proceedings:** Please provide contact details (department and individual, if available) for submitting legal queries or initiating legal proceedings related to procurement processes under this framework.

The NHS Workforce Alliance are the framework owners and if there is a specific query on the process as outlined in the Framework Agreement, we suggest you contact [The NHS Workforce Alliance, https://workforcealliance.nhs.uk/contact/](https://workforcealliance.nhs.uk/contact/)

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

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net