



FOI REF: 24/639

18th September 2024

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. Which provider is used as your HR, Finance and Payroll solution?

HR & Payroll – IBM ESR
Finance & Payments – Integrated Business Software & Solutions

2. What are the total and annual contract values for each of your systems?

HR & Payroll – no cost as national contract
Finance & Payments – Section 43(2) applied, please see below.

Section 17 Notice of Refusal

Under Section FOIA Section 1 (1) (a) The Trust would confirm that it does hold 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 sharing commercials could disadvantage the incumbent supplier against their competitors. The information could provide competitors with the suppliers pricing, which could result in these suppliers obtaining a competitive advantage which could 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.

3. When do your contracts expire?

HR August 2025
Finance & Payments March 2027

4. Do you have any planned upgrades of the software?

HR - Information not held by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust as contract is NHS wide.

Finance & Payments – No.

a. If so, when?

Not applicable.

5. Are you planning to go to market for a different HR or Finance system?

No.

a. If so, when?

Not applicable.

**6. Who is the person responsible for your HR or Finance system?
Please provide: Full name, job title and contact information, if possible.**

Section 17 Notice of Refusal

HR – Ruth Merrick, Workforce Systems Support & Governance Manager
Finance & Payments - Jane Harding, Financial Systems Manager

We are unable to provide the contact details of staff as we consider this information to be exempt from release in accordance with section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (Prohibition on disclosure) and would refer to the Privacy and Electronic Communications EC Directive Regulations 2003 which provide specific rules on electronic communication services, including marketing (by phone, fax, email or text) and keeping communications services secure. We will not provide any information that could result in the transmission of unsolicited communications which may place an unacceptable risk to our email network and could also have a detrimental impact on patient care and treatment.

The contact number for the Trust are accessible on the Trust website <http://www.esht.nhs.uk>.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

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