

FOI REF: 24/653

21st October 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:

- The company names of external contractors currently contracted to provide services in your NHS trust.**

| Contractor | Short Description |
|--|--|
| Booker & Best Ltd | Prime Cost Contractors Building |
| PD Harris | Prime Cost Contractors Building |
| Eastbourne Electrical Ltd | Electrical Term Contract & Fire Alarm Services Eastbourne |
| Salisbury \Linen Services | Laundry & Linen Services |
| G M Monk Ltd | Electrical Term Contract & Fire Alarm Services Hastings Area |
| TGS Security Specialists/Continental Facilities Management Group | Security Services |

- A description of the services provided by these external contractors to your NHS trust.**

Clarification was sought with regard to In what area or department are you seeking to find information about contractors and confirmation was received that you require where the Trust has outsourced parts of a service to a private provider that requires workers on site regularly - for example, companies providing 'estate' services (cleaning, catering, etc) - or any other service which requires workers to be on site on a long term basis.

Please see above table.

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3. The number of staff working for each external contractor at the NHS trust.

This information is not held by the Trust.

4. The monetary value of each contract held per annum in GBP broken down by the name of contractor.

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.

5. The date which the contracts held between the trust and each external contractor began and are due to expire.

| Contractor | Start Date | End Date |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| Booker & Best Ltd | 06/01/2020 | 31/03/2025 |
| PD Harris | 06/01/2020 | 31/03/2025 |
| Eastbourne Electrical Ltd | 01/01/2022 | 31/12/2025 |
| Salisbury \Linen Services | 01/03/2022 | 31/03/2027 |
| G M Monk Ltd | 01/06/2022 | 31/05/2025 |
| TGS Security Specialists/Continental Facilities Management Group | 01/12/2018 | 31/03/2025 |

6. Whether each external contractor implements NHS Agenda for Change pay awards for their staff working at the NHS trust.

This information is not held by the Trust.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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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