

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4776

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Sterilisation service.

You asked:

- 1. Run in house as an NHS service*
- 2. Onsite but outsourced to private provider*
- 3. Outsourced to a separate trust, if so which trust?*
- 4. Outsourced to a private provider off site*

Please confirm sterilisation cost for a single surgical instrument including shipping and VAT?

Trust response:

4. Outsourced to a private provider off site

The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA which provides an exemption from disclosure of information which would or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). This is a qualified exemption, and is therefore subject to the public interest test.

The Trust believes that the information requested contains details which would be likely to damage the companies ability to win new business opportunities for their services and to perform them within a commercially competitive market because other contracting authorities and competitors would be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of its delivery model and methodology.

The Trust has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption, and therefore protecting the commercial interests of the suppliers and preserving its ability to compete fairly in a commercial market, outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this case.