

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5393

Please reply to:
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Trust Management
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24 April 2019

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 NHS Trust Brexit impact Assessments.

You asked:

It has been reported that all NHS Trusts have compiled information about the impact on the supply of goods and services and on EU staff numbers collected by NHS Trusts, in preparation for a no-deal Brexit as well as self-assessments of the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

I would therefore like to request:

- 1. The full report of a no-deal Brexit impact assessment*
- 2. Other self-assessments on the impact of Brexit;*

I would like to request that the above information be provided to me as both paper and electronic copies.

Trust response:

The Trust is applying the following exemption to the release of the full report of a no-deal Brexit impact assessment and other self-assessments on the impact of Brexit. Exemption Section 36 – Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

The information requested is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 36. The Trust is not required to provide information in response to a request if the information would prejudice or would be likely to prejudice “the effective conduct of public affairs.”

However, the Trust confirms that planning has been undertaken covering amongst others:

1. Supply of medicines and vaccines;
2. Supply of medical devices and clinical consumables;
3. Supply of non-clinical consumables, goods and services;
4. Workforce;
5. Reciprocal healthcare;
6. Research and clinical trials; and
7. Data sharing, processing and access.

Returns have been made directly to the Department of Health and Social Care in line with guidance from the Cabinet Office dated 7 December 2018.

The Trust can confirm:

- 1, 2 & 3. The Trust is not stock piling and has received assurances from our suppliers that the service will not be interrupted.
4. The Trust has issued advice regarding the Settled Status applications and is funding any requests made by its employees.
5. The Trust follows Government guidelines.
6. The Government has guaranteed funding committed to UK organisations for certain EU funded projects in the event of a 'no deal' scenario. This includes the payment of awards where UK organisations successfully bid directly to the EU while we remain in the EU, and the payment of awards where UK organisations are able to successfully bid to participate as a third country after EU Exit, until the end of 2020.
7. The Trust has taken steps to be GDPR compliant.

Further information which has been discussed by the Trust Board in its Part 2 Board meeting will not be released in line with – “To approve the motion (to enable the Trust Board to convene its ‘Part 2’ meeting) that in pursuance of Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, representatives of the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, publicity on which would be prejudicial to the public interest.”

The Trust is happy to supply the information as an electronic copy which can be printed should a paper copy be required.

Please also note that all completed FOI requests are published on the Trust website in due course.