

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6732

**Please reply to:**  
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Trust Management  
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[www.mtw.nhs.uk](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk)

25 May 2021

### **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 blood collection tubes for liquid biopsies.

*You asked:*

- 1. How do you obtain blood collection tubes for liquid biopsies on cancer patients?*
- 2. From what suppliers do you obtain these products?*
- 3. Were these products purchased through a tender or framework? If so, which one? Please provide details including the name, reference and where this was published.*
- 4. Are you under contract with your current supplier(s) for the above? If so, what is the start and end date of the contract?*
- 5. Can you provide the name and contact details for the person(s) responsible for procuring these products?*
- 6. Can you provide contact details for the department responsible for managing this service?*

Trust response:

1. Pathology consumables are purchased through a managed service contract
2. Roche
3. SBS framework
4. Start 02/09/20 - End 31/03/25
5. Commercial Manager, Procurement Dept. This role falls under the remit of the Chief Finance Officer. Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust receives a number of requests for details relating to the professional lives of our staff from private individuals and organisations, some of whom are involved in recruitment and marketing. We are aware that approaches from some of these organisations, as a result of any disclosure on our part, may lead to damage and distress to individuals whose roles and responsibilities would not

normally be public facing or a level where the expectation would be that this information should be in the public domain. On very rare occasions it might be considered in the public interest to disclose some information but in such cases the views of the individual staff concerned is always sought.

The Trust has therefore decided that in future all such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

The information you have requested is therefore exempt under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Trust follows guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office on the disclosure of personal data including direct contact details.

Information relating to staff that is not currently publically available on our website will not be released under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 40(2) (personal information) as it relates to the personal information of employees.

The Trust Executive structure chart is available on the Trust website [www.mtw.nhs.uk](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk) and details of our Clinically Led Organisation can be found on the trust website using the following link: <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/clinically-led-organisation/>

Alternatively, from our website home page, click the About Us Tab, then the Clinically-led Organisation tab where you will find all the information.

6. Pathology - <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/gps/pathology/pathology-service-information/how-to-contact-us/>