

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5138

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
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Kent  
ME16 9QQ

Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

20 December 2018

## **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 female sanitary products.

*You asked:*

*For the 2017-18 financial year, please provide:*

- 1. Income raised from the sale of female sanitary products on the NHS trusts' sites – in vending machines, retail outlets or in any other instance whereby revenue is raised for/by the trust through the sale of female sanitary products*
- 2. The price of each sanitary product that is made available for purchase across the trust's sites. Please provide a description of the brand and type of product, size of the pack or unit value and where the product is on sale (shop, bathroom vending machine etc). If the price of the product has fluctuated over the course of the financial year, please provide the standard retail price when it was not subject to any kind of promotion. This figure should be the price at which the product has been retailed for the most substantial period of time during the year. (I.e. if the product has retailed at x price for three months and y price for six months, please provide y.*
- 3. Total expenditure by the trust on sanitary products for the use of patients, whether in-patients or out-patients.*
- 4. Volume of sanitary products purchased by the trust for the use of patients, broken down by type of product – tampon, pads, etc.*
- 5. Confirmation of whether the trust has any policy(s) or formal approach in place concerning the provision of sanitary products to patients and how patients can obtain these products free of charge when under the care of the trust.*
- 6. If such a policy or formal approach exists, please provide a copy of any such documentation that confirms the policy and informs staff and patients about it.*

**Trust response:**

1. There are two outlets within the Trust where sanitary products are available to purchase, The League of Friends at Maidstone Hospital and WHSmith at Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury. No income is raised for the Trust.
2. Information not held by the Trust.

3&4.

Suppliers Item Referenc e	Description	Quant Of Measure	Units Ordered	Total Spend Ex VAT
6424	Maternity pad non sterile Adhesive back size 10cm x 28cm night time pads Please note this product is now not suitable for autoclaving	12	1232	£1,063.97
6438	Sanitary towel press on adhesive backed non sterile Super. please note this product is now not suitable for autoclaving	10	1168	£418.53
800142	Maternity pad press on adhesive backed sterile 30cm x 10cm	100	79	£1,229.11
800143	Maternity pad unlooped sterile 30 x 10cm	100	57	£618.45
Grand Total			2536	£3,330.06

5. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available from the trust website using the following link: <http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Sanitary-Products.011118.pdf>

6. Not applicable