

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5432

**Please reply to:**  
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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 Hand sanitiser spend.

*You asked:*

*Please could you tell me how much money Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust spends on hand sanitiser on an annual basis? Please could you supply figures for the past five years?*

Trust response:

Over the past five years the Trust spent £97,625.31 on hand sanitiser.

Due to commercial sensitivity the Trust will not release more detailed information.

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 company's ability to win new business opportunities for their services and to perform them within a commercially competitive market.

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.

#### Supplier Transactions

All NHS bodies are required to publish details of individual invoices and transactions that are over £25,000. This is in response to guidance from HM Treasury which sets out the scope of the data. Details can be found on our website using the following link: [www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/)