

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5919

Please reply to: FOI Administrator Trust Management Maidstone Hospital Hermitage Lane Maidstone, Kent ME16 9QQ Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

07 January 2020

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 Rainbow logo.

You asked:

 The funding for the pedestrian crossing came from the Estates Maintenance Budget and was authorised by the Trust Chief Executive.
What was the sum of money that was allocated and authorised?

2. The Trust has installed a flagpole on each hospital site, and these are used on multiple occasions throughout the year for different purposes. The Rainbow flags were donated to the Trust.

• Who donated the monies for the Rainbow Flags?

3. There are posters that are up in the Hospital are designed to support "inclusiveness".

However, why has the Rainbow Logo Style been utilised as this is outside of the vanilla inclusiveness and provides another enhancement to the LGBT+ network – Why has this been done?

Trust response:

1. The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA which provides an exemption from disclosure of further detailed 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 is of an amount which may identify the items or services provided which would be likely to damage the company's ability to win new business opportunities for their services and products 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.

In order to protect the commercial interests of the company employed to carry out the works the Trust will not be releasing the exact figure.

However, the Trust can confirm that the cost was between £1000 and £3000.

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

3. The posters are designed to support the introduction of the NHS Rainbow Badge. When the Trust signed up to the NHS Rainbow Badge, we committed to the whole project model and not just the symbol of the badge itself. The posters explain the badges to patients and visitors and their families so that they know people who are wearing the badges will be accepting, nonjudgemental, be a friendly ear and know how to signpost people to the support available.

Further information regarding the NHS Rainbow Badge Scheme can be found using the following link: <u>https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/07/nhs-is-out-and-proud-for-pride/</u>