

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6317

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

13 October 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 Insourcing endoscopy services.

You asked:

1. *The name and email address of:*
 - a. *The Clinical Director that is responsible for Endoscopy*
 - b. *The General Manager that is responsible for Endoscopy*
 - c. *The Service Manager that is responsible for Endoscopy*
2. *In the last 12 months, which external Insourcing providers have you used for your Endoscopy Service?*
3. *Do you have a contract with an external Insourcing provider of Endoscopy Services and, if so, which company is the contract with?*
4. *Did you procure the Insourced Endoscopy Service via a tender process or Framework and, if so, which one?*
5. *If you have a contract with an Insourcing provider for Endoscopy Services, when does it currently expire and when will it be reviewed?*
6. *If you have a contract with an Insourcing provider for Endoscopy Services, how much are you being charged per fully staffed room, per day?*
7. *If you have a contract with an Insourcing provider for Endoscopy Services, what days of the week do they operate and how many rooms do they staff?*
8. *What has been the spend by the Trust/Health Board in the last 12 months on Insourced Endoscopy Services?*
9. *Does the Trust/Health Board currently require insourced Endoscopy Services?*
10. *Does the Trust/Health Board currently require specific insourced BCS Bowel Screening Services?*
11. *Does the Trust/Health Board currently require additional Endoscopy capacity via a suitable external premises or JAG accredited Mobile Endoscopy Unit?*

Trust response:

1.
 - a. 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 WWW.MTW.NHS.UK Please enter endoscopy into the search box and the response will be shown. Alternatively please use the following link: <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/service/endoscopy/>
 - b. X
 - c. X
2. Elective Services Ltd.
3. Yes, as above.
4. SBS Framework.
5. Current expiry 5th July 2021 with the option to extend for a further 12 months
6. XX
7. Saturdays and Sundays. 2 lists per day.
8. XX
9. Yes.
- 10.No.
- 11.No.

X: 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.

XX: 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 companies 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/