

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6206

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

30 July 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 Personal Protective Equipment for cleaning staff.

*You asked:*

- 1. Is your cleaning managed in-house or outsourced to a private contractor? (If in-house, please respond to questions 2-4, if outsourced, please respond to questions 5-7)*
- 2. What PPE do you provide to cleaners?*
- 3. What training do you provide to cleaners on doffing and donning PPE?*
- 4. Do you collect data on PPE's failure to protect cleaners? Is this data broken down by sex and ethnicity of the cleaners? Can you provide this data?*
- 5. To whom is your cleaning outsourced?*
- 6. Can you provide a copy of the contract you have with them?*
- 7. Has this contract been amended in any way that affects the provision of PPE or training in the use of PPE for hospital cleaners since February 1, 2020? If so, how?*

Trust response:

1. In-house
2. All appropriate PPE is provided as required including: Disposable gloves/apron/fluid resistant face masks/eye protection/FFP3 masks if required for task.
3. Full training has been given to all domestics including specific departmental training and is monitored regularly. This includes correct disposal of PPE. Uniform is required to be changed out of before leaving the hospital and washed when arrived home. Uniform must not be worn to travel to or from work. PPE officers are employed working across the organisation to monitor and support appropriate usage of PPE for ALL staff including cleaners.

4. If this is relates to staff who have tested as COVID positive – an investigation and review process is undertaken whereby All staff (including Cleaners) who test positive for COVID-19 complete a questionnaire that includes their PPE usage. Any failures or inappropriate PPE usage would be identified at this time through this process.

If this relates to FIT testing and mask pass / mask fail then the Trust can confirm that ALL staff including cleaners are invited to attend for FIT testing for FFP3 masks where they are required to use this equipment in their role. This information is not currently collected according gender or ethnicity. The Trust however has actively participated in the recent research study: FFP3 Mask Fit Testing Project.

5, 6 & 7. Not applicable