

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6438

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

09 December 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 Language and translation services.

You asked:

1. Are you on any of the below frameworks for language services (face to face interpreting spoken and non-spoken, telephone and video interpreting and translation) if so which one?

Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO)

London Procurement Partnership (LPP)

NHS SBS

North East Purchasing Organisation (NEPO)

NOECPC

Health Trust Europe (HTE)

Crown Commercial Services (CCS)

2. If you are not on any of the above frameworks please confirm how you are accessing services.

3. What is the expiry date/s of your current language services contracts including telephone interpreting, face to face interpreting spoken and non-spoken and translation?

4. Who is your current provider for each of these services?

5. What was the spend by year for the last 2 financial years (2018 and 2019) in total and broken down by service

-Telephone Interpreting

-Face to Face Interpreting

-British Sign Language

-Translation

6. Who is the Contract Manager and Senior Responsible Owner for the force in regard to language services?

Trust response:

1. 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 Interpreting and Translation Services into the search box and the response will be shown. Alternatively please use the following link: <http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Interpreting-and-Translation-services.-021020.pdf>
2. Please see the response to Q1 above.
3. Please see the response to Q1 above.
4. Please see the response to Q1 above.
5. 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/

6. Please see the response to Q1 above.