

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6545

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

12 February 2021

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 lead aprons.

You asked:

- 1. Name of Hospital*
- 2. Does the hospital use Lead Aprons? (If NO, then no further information needed) please just enter the hospital name and N in column B of the attached spreadsheet.*
- 3. What brand of Lead Apron is currently used or most recent brand purchased if several in use*
- 4. What is the hospitals annual spend on Lead Aprons? Please provide data for the last 3 complete financial or calendar years if possible*
- 5. How many Lead Aprons are purchased per annum? Please provide data for the last 3 complete financial or calendar years if possible*
- 6. Who is the Key contact person in charge of ordering lead aprons for Radiology Department - Name/Job Title/E-mail/Direct Contact Number/Decision Maker Yes or No (if employee direct contact details can't be shared please provide a general contact number and e-mail for the Radiology department.)*
- 7. Who is the Key contact person in charge of ordering lead aprons for Cath Lab Department - Name/Job Title/E-mail/Direct Contact Number/Decision Maker Yes or No (if employee direct contact details can't be shared please provide a general contact number and e-mail for the Cath Lab department.)*
- 8. Who is the Key contact person in charge of ordering lead aprons for Theatre Department - Name/Job Title/E-mail/Direct Contact Number/Decision Maker Yes or No (if employee direct contact details can't be shared please provide a general contact number and e-mail for the Theatre department.)*
- 9. If the departmental contact is not the decision maker in the buying process please also provide the full contact details (Name/Job Title/E-mail/Direct*

Contact Number) for a Senior Person in charge of ordering (e.g. Head of Procurement, Service Manager, Clinical Director, Clinical Lead)

Trust response:

1. Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust.
2. Yes
3. Everything X-ray Aprons
- 4.

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/

5. About 12 used per year
6. 7. & 8.

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.

The Trust follows guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office on the disclosure of personal data including direct contact details.

Information relating to staff that is not currently publically available on our website will not be released under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 40(2) (personal information) as it relates to the personal information of employees.

The Trust Executive structure chart is available on the Trust website www.mtw.nhs.uk and details of our Clinically Led Organisation can be found on the trust website using the following link: <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/clinically-led-organisation/>

Alternatively, from our website home page, click the About Us Tab, then the Clinically-led Organisation tab where you will find all the information.

9. This role falls under the remit of the Chief Finance Officer. The Trust Executive structure chart is available on the Trust website www.mtw.nhs.uk