

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7804

Please reply to:
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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 Virtual Wards.

You asked:

- 1. Do you use virtual wards in your trust? (Y/N)*
- 2. If you are not currently using virtual wards, are you planning on using them in the future?*
- 3. How many virtual ward beds do you have?*
- 4. Can you please specify how many virtual wards you have by speciality (respiratory care, cardiology care, diabetes care, stroke care, renal care, pre/post-operative care services, other)?*
- 5. How many patients have been admitted in virtual wards in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022?*
- 6. Which virtual ward software providers do you work with?*
- 7. Do you have the values and durations of the contracts with the virtual ward software providers for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022?*

Trust response:

1. Yes
2. Not applicable
3. 30 currently
4. 30 Frailty. Please note this service is run by Kent Community Health FT
5. 30 in 2022. 0 in other years
6. Luscii and Docobo
7. Luscii was procured in 2022 and runs until Oct 2024. Docobo was procured by the ICB. The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA to any further information. This 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/