

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 20-336

25 November 2020

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we hold some the information you are requesting

1) Please provide the following information for each PPE contract your organisation has signed directly from February 1st 2020 to date.

This would include contracts for body bags, gowns, gloves, coveralls, masks, respirators, hand sanitizer, visors, and face shields, and clinical disposal equipment such as waste bags.

The trust utilised the following methods to secure PPE stock as part of the Covid-19 response:

- use of NHS Supply Chain framework
- Push stock (organised by DoHSC)
- NSDR (national supply disruption response)

Due to the volatility of the PPE market, the trust did not enter into long term, sole supply contracts. Where the trust has bought PPE outside of the above supply routes the purchases have been low value and therefore covered by the standard NHS purchase order terms and conditions. Specific high-value contracts for the provision of PPE have not been agreed between the Trust and any third party organisations.

Please note:

The definition of PPE is causing difficulty in answer this question in more detail. For example our trust typically do not categorise body bags and waste bags as PPE.

a) The total value of each contract

Not applicable.

b) The date the contract was signed

Not applicable.

c) The name, unique identifier (Companies House number or Dun & Bradstreet number) and address of each supplier for each contract. Please note companies do not have personal information.

Not applicable.

d) The deliverables agreed in each contract, including the list of items to be supplied, and the volume of each item to be supplied.

Not applicable.

e) The procurement procedure, ie. OJEU, framework, competition or extreme urgency provision (negotiated procedure without a call for competition).

Not applicable

f) whether the contract has been fulfilled in full as of the date of this request.

Not applicable.

2) Please state if any batches of items delivered under these PPE contracts, or national contracts, have failed to meet required product safety or protection standards and those items were rejected.

If this has occurred, please state what PPE items failed to meet standards, and the volume of items rejected (if only an estimated value for this is held, please provide it).

Not applicable.

3) Please provide a copy of any reports into fraud relating to these PPE contracts, or national contracts, signed since Feb 1st

None.

4)

a) Please state the total cost to your trust due to fraud and error for each month for the period 1st January 2016 to 1st August 2020, if this information is retrievable within cost.

We do not report monthly information, only Annual fraud loss.

2015/16: Unknown level of fraud/error

2016/17: £8,456.68

2017/18: £41,196.12

2018/19: £1,059.52

2019/20: £71,175.00

b) If you have a breakdown for PPE related fraud and error, please also provide this for each month for the period Feb 1st to date, if this information is retrievable within cost.

None

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust