

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-772

5 November 2024

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 do hold the information you are requesting

I am requesting the following records under the Freedom of Information Act. This is in relation to the use of social value weighting of 10 per cent in your procurement of goods and services, which has been mandated by government for NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts since April 2022.

Please send me:

1. What methods do you use to measure social value from your procurements? Please include any additional measurement methods you use (e.g. TOMs) as well as the NHS Social Value Model.

Procurement collaborates with our dedicated Sustainable Development Team to devise an appropriate mechanism to define and measure social value criteria for each tendered activity and is currently tailored to each requirement. Procurement primarily utilises the Social Value Model as the framework to define and craft an appropriate assessment to support the evaluation where focus is on suppliers and the positive impact they shall have on the environment, society, economy and the local community.

2. What is the total social value accrued by your procurement activities each year from April 2022, according to how you measure and report this at a corporate level? If possible, can you provide any explanatory notes to explain how you have measured this?

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3. Do you use financial proxies to monetise the measurement of social value, such as

social local economic value? If so:

No, Procurement is still developing appropriate Social Return on Investment tools and calculators to ensure that we can clearly articulate, define and attribute a fair and equitable amount to a monetised measurement – Procurement measure and emphasise the importance of Social Value based on outcomes and deliverables.

1. a. Please specify the method or measure you use to monetise the measurement of social value

Outcome/deliverable qualitative based assessment.

1. b. Please provide the total number of contracts to which you applied this financial proxy each financial year since April 2022

Zero

1. c. Please provide the total value of those contracts

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1. d. Please provide the total monetized social value of those contracts

Zero

1. e. Please provide the total value of all contracts let during that same period

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4. How much in total have you spent in procurement on local business/organisations, each financial year, since April 2022? Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

Please including your definition of a local business/organisation, if you have one.

Procurement's definition of a local business is: A Private Limited Company or organisation who has a registered business address within a 50-mile radius of Trust Head Quarters.

5. How much have you spent on SMEs each FY since April 2022? The government defines an SME as a company with fewer than 250 employees, turnover under €50m and balance sheet under €43. If the trust has a different definition then please provide it.

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6. How much have you spent on VCSEs each FY since April 2022? Again, please include your definition of a VCSE if you have one.

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time. Procurement and Sustainable Development have not fully defined what is a VCSE and is part of a wider activity within our Integrated Care Board. More information about that can be located within our Healthier Together network: <https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/staff-and-partners/voluntary-community-and-social-enterprise-vcse/vcse-brokerage-framework/>

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:

Data Protection Officer
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**