

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-701

17 September 2025

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

1. How much does the Trust spend per year on the removal and destruction of confidential and waste paper?

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply **Section 21** of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the NHS England website on the following link: [Estates Returns Information Collection - NHS England Digital](#). Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information if it is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

2. Who is the current provider/supplier of the confidential waste paper shredding service

Biffa

3. What brand of copier paper is used by the Trust. – we are unable to provide the brand/s of copier paper as we only define the specification requirements of the paper which means the brand can vary

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4. How many reams of paper were bought by the Trust in the calendar year 2024. (A4 specifically)

3,618

5. How much did the Trust spend on office copier paper in the calendar year 2024.

Less than £45,000 for all copier paper costs.

6. Is the trust legally obliged to purchase office copier paper through the NHS supply chain, or would cost savings outside of this be an option with other local suppliers.

No, we are not legally obliged to purchase office copier paper through NHS Supply Chain, we would assess options to identify what was the most economically advantageous based on Trust need.

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**