

Our Ref: 141119
Email: request-619988-c340ec6c@whatdotheyknow.com
Date: 12 December 2019

Corporate Governance Department
Legal Services Division
Freedom of Information Team
3 Priestley Wharf
Holt Street
Aston
Birmingham
B7 4BN
Tel: 0121 466 7293

Dear Gearoid

Re: Freedom of Information Request

With reference to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act dated 13 November 2019, I can advise that the Trust **does hold** the information that you are seeking. I will set this out below:

Dear Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

I am researching the use of clinical decision support systems used in NHS Trusts. As such I am making this request under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

To assist you, what I mean by clinical decision support systems, these are stand alone or integrated software which helps clinical staff make safe decisions and take appropriate action. They can be algorithms, care plans, clinical referencing, or clinical condition specific guidelines which incorporate treatment or decision making.

Proprietary examples include:

- BestPractice (BMJ)
 - ClinicalKey, ExpertPath, STATdx, Arezzo (Elsevier)
 - DXS
 - DynaMed, DynaMed Plus, Isabel (EBSCO)
 - First DataBank, Zynx (Hearst)
 - IBM Watson, Micromedex (IBM)
 - iRefer (MedCurrent)
 - MedicinesComplete (BNF)
 - Provation
 - LexiComp, UpToDate (WoltersKluwer)
 - ThinkResearch (ThinkResearch Corporation)

To assist me with my research, could you please give me the following information please:

	Question	Answer
1	Does the trust operate any clinical	Yes, the Trust uses some clinical decision support

	decision support systems (examples above) If so, which ones?	<p>systems, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medusa IV resource; • the Microguide app; • PreVisor – a clinical risk assessment software accessible in dentistry, which may influence clinical decision making but does not create a clinical management algorithm; • Vantage REGO, a referral management system, which could be viewed as a clinical decision support system to enable appropriate allocation of patients via referral; • the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme – prescribing guidelines; • WMcares – guidelines and algorithms for palliative care; • APPM – guidelines and algorithms for paediatric palliative care; • the APC formulary; • the BNF, available to the Trust through Medicines Complete, which is provided nationally to the NHS; and • a management algorithm used mainly for complex patients on systemic treatment in the Behcet's multidisciplinary clinic. <p>The Trust had a two-year subscription for Dynamed Plus (a decision-support tool) from March 2017 to February 2019. This has since stopped because BMJ Best Practice was eventually purchased nationally for the NHS as a decision-support tool from April 2019.</p>
2	What is the cost of licences (and any other support) the Trust paid on clinical decision support systems in the financial years 2017-18 & 2018-19	We decline to provide the costs that the Trust pays for some of the resources in 1 above because those are commercially sensitive. We have, therefore, applied the exemption under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
3	Has the trust developed their own electronic clinical decision support system(s)?	No.
4	If so, what were the WTE and total funding costs incurred in development of their own clinical decision support	This is not applicable.

	system(s) for the financial years 2017-18 & 2018-19 respectively	
5	What was the Trusts' total operating budget for financial years 2017-18 & 2018-19 respectively	The Trust's operating budget for 2017/18 was £255,852,000; that for 2018/19 was £267,298,000.

I can confirm that as the information has been provided, this request is now closed.

For future reference, the Trust's publication scheme and details of the services that we provide can be found on our website: www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk.

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The Publication Scheme is a guide to the information routinely published by Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, and made available to the public.

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In the unlikely event that you have cause to complain about the service received in respect of your Freedom of Information request; the Trust operates a complaints procedure which gives the applicant the right to an internal review of the administration or outcome of any valid Freedom of Information request within 40 days of the date of this response. Such reviews will usually be undertaken within 20 days by the Chief Executive Officer, or an appropriate nominated officer. Where the Chief Executive has been closely involved in the original request, any review will be conducted by the Chairman of the Trust, or an appropriate Non Executive Director. The Trust will keep a record of all complaints, reviews and outcomes. Should you feel that you have cause to complain then please write to:

Chief Executive
Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
3 Priestley Wharf
Holt Street
Birmingham
B7 4BN
Telephone: 0121 466 7033

Should you be dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner. A complaints form can be obtained from the Information Commissioner's website: www.ico.gov.uk or contact:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545745

Feedback

We would be interested to receive feedback as to how you feel your request has been dealt with to help us to understand where we are doing well and to make improvements where necessary; your comments (whether positive or negative) can be made either in writing to the address above or by email.

Yours sincerely

Eugene C Aninweze

Freedom of Information Officer