



**Surrey and Sussex Healthcare**  
NHS Trust

***Please reply to:***

Name: Jeanette Randall  
Title: FOI Officer  
Email: sash.foi@nhs.net

**Trust Headquarters**  
**East Surrey Hospital**  
Canada Avenue  
Redhill  
RH1 5RH

**By Email**

Tel: 01737 768511  
[www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk](http://www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk)

Our ref: 5802

2 December 2019

Dear Mr GM Bolguidhir

**Freedom of information request**

I am writing in response to your request for information which has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Clinical Decision Support Systems in your organisation

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)

Could you please give me the following information please:

1. Does the trust operate any clinical decision support systems (examples above)

◦ If so, which ones? [The Trust does not have clinical decision support systems.](#)

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

3. Has the trust developed their own electronic clinical decision support system(s)?

4. If so, what were the WTE and total funding costs incurred in development of their own clinical decision support 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?

I hope this information is helpful, but if you are unhappy with our response, or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an independent internal review. This would be undertaken by an appropriate senior member of staff at the Trust, who has had no involvement in dealing with your original request. We aim to deal with internal reviews within 20 working days following receipt. If you wish to request one, please set out your grounds for asking for the review in writing and send it by post or email:

By post: Please address your letter to "Freedom of Information – Information Access Appeal" and send it to our address as shown on this letter.

By Email: Emails should be clearly marked 'Information access appeal' and sent to: [sash.foi@nhs.net](mailto:sash.foi@nhs.net).

Should you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you would have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). However, I should point out that under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, you are obliged to exhaust the Trust's own internal review process before appealing to the ICO. The ICO's contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
<http://ico.org.uk>

We would also welcome your feedback on how well we met your expectations in handling your FOIA request. If you have a couple of minutes, please click on this [link](#) to complete our Freedom of Information Customer Satisfaction Survey and let us know about your experience. The survey is anonymous – unless you choose to provide your reference number.

Please contact me, quoting our reference, if you have any queries concerning this letter and I will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Randall  
FOI Officer