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**King's Mill Hospital**  
Mansfield Road  
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Nottinghamshire  
NG17 4JL

Barrie Graham  
[request-564686-1324bc7a@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-564686-1324bc7a@whatdotheyknow.com)

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7 May 2019

## RE: Freedom of Information Request

Dear Barrie,

With reference to your request for information received on 27 March 2019 I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information that you have requested. A response to each part of your request is detailed below.

In your request you asked:

- **What is the total number of employees in your organisation?**  
4820
- **What is the total annual £revenue for your organisation?**  
£311M
- **What is the total/average number of sub-contractors (non Payroll based service providers) utilised by your organisation p.a. (if this data is available)?**  
We do not hold this information.
- **Who is your Head of Finance, email and title?**  
Paul Robinson - [Paul.Robinson6@nhs.net](mailto:Paul.Robinson6@nhs.net) - Chief Finance Officer
- **Who is your Head of Procurement, email and title?**  
Bob Truswell, [bob.truswell@nhs.net](mailto:bob.truswell@nhs.net) Strategic Head of Procurement
- **Who is your Head of HR, email and title?**  
Julie Bacon - [Julie.Bacon@nhs.net](mailto:Julie.Bacon@nhs.net) - Director of HR and OD
- **Who is your Head of Payroll, email and title?**  
Joanne Sankey - [Joanne.Sankey@nhs.net](mailto:Joanne.Sankey@nhs.net) - Payroll and Pensions Manager

- **Which software applications (and versions) are you running for:**
  - o **Finance/ERP?** Please see the attachment.
  - o **Procurement** - None
  - o **HR-** Please see the attachment.
  - o **Payroll** – Please see the attachment.
  - o **AI - Artificial Intelligence** - None
  - o **RPA – Robotic Process Automation** – None
- **How many users of the above systems are you licensed for?**  
Please see the attachment.
- **Are any of the above applications Cloud based? If so, which?**  
Please see the attachment.
- **Do you have an application support partner for any of the above applications, if so who?**  
\*
- **How much do you pay annually for Finance/ERP/HR/Payroll software licence support?**  
\*
- **How much do you pay annually for Artificial Intelligence or RPA?**  
N/A – None.
- **How much do you pay annually for application Support & Maintenance and when does it renew?**  
\*
- **Do you work with off-shore partners? If so, who?**  
No.
- **Do you work with Systems Integration partners, if so, who?**  
Orion.

**\* Section 43 - Commercial interests**

It is our opinion that the information sought regarding the annual fees along with the details of the providers receiving this funding is exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). S43(2) relates to information that is exempt from disclosure that could have a detrimental effect on the commercial interests of “...*any person.*” The Trust considers that at this time the commercial interests of the Trust, third parties and overall the NHS could be detrimentally impacted upon. Please see the public interest test below.

**Public Interest Test**

We recognise that the disclosure of the information sought in relation to the daily/weekly fees and the providers involved would provide transparency in the use of public funds by the Trust and the NHS in general. It would also assist the general populous with transparency in decision making by the Trust and their transactions with third parties.

Conversely to the factors demonstrated above in favour of disclosure, it is felt that the Trust, third party suppliers and overall the NHS could be disadvantaged should the information sought in relation to daily/weekly fees and the providers be made available. Suppliers compete with one another in a competitive environment and to provide the value of the daily/weekly fees and details of the providers involved may allow rival companies to undercut the Trust current suppliers, lead to loss of confidence by suppliers and customers and could cause significant harm and disadvantage to the Trust and suppliers.

The disclosure could also adversely impact on any on-going or future procurement processes for the reasons outlined above. Any disclosure by the Trust could also in future discourage the provision of commercially sensitive information necessary to respond properly to the Trusts Invitation To Tender, and would be likely to affect and undermine the Trusts bargaining position in any future procurement process or negotiations. Ultimately civil action could be taken against the Trust should information be disclosed that adversely affects the commercial interests of current and/or future suppliers.

As a result, it is in the Trust's opinion that this sufficiently demonstrates the prejudice which could be caused through disclosure.

### **Balance Test**

It is important to bear in mind that any disclosure under the FOI Act is a disclosure to the public at large and not just to the applicant. It is recognised that there is a general public interest in the Trust being open and transparent. However, it is not believed that this public interest is served in disclosure for damage that would be caused as outlined above.

Therefore, – the Trust considers that releasing this information would not be in the public interest, as the public interest does not outweigh the prejudice as set out above.

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, 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: Shirley Higginbotham, Head of Corporate Affairs and Company Secretary, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [shirley.higginbotham@nhs.net](mailto:shirley.higginbotham@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act, and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to: FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use

British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

**Jacquie Widdowson**  
**Information Governance Manager**

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.