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Request for Information Reference: 12.23.09

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Email only

27th December 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 4th December 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to New Radiology Enquiry and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. Do you have a Radiology MES running in your trust, if yes what are the start and end dates?

Yes - 1st November 2018 – 31st October 2032

2. Do you have a capital replacement plan, if so, please share it?

The Trust are unable to provide the information as requested on the grounds that this information is commercially sensitive and has, therefore, been withheld pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

Section 43 (2) exempts from disclosure the following:

(2) Information, the disclosure of which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person including those of the public authority holding the information.

Our supplier has made clear representation that pricing or details of the contract is commercially sensitive information, the disclosure of which would be likely to

prejudice their commercial interests, as it would provide alternative bidders with an understanding of their costs (which would not be reciprocated) with respect to similar contracts in the NHS, thereby undermining their ability to tender, on fair and equal terms, for such contracts. The Trust considers that there is potential for such harm to arise with reasonable proximity and, therefore, that the exemption under Section 43(2) of the Act is engaged.

The Trust acknowledges the public interest in publication of the information; specifically the interest in transparency with respect to expenditure on services, as a means of assisting the taxpayer in evaluating their value for money. However, there is a competing public interest in preserving fair market competition and the ability of public authorities to obtain value for money when sourcing services. In previous rulings the Information Commissioner has made clear that the Freedom of Information Act is not intended to distort fair market competition. In this case, the Trust therefore considers that the public interest in preserving fair competition outweighs the general public interest in transparency and is therefore applying the exemption under Section 43(2).

3. Please share your radiology at risk register.

Please see attached Radiology Risk Register.

4. Which contrast injectors do you have installed in radiology?

MRI, CT and Angio

5. Please provide make, models, installation dates and any service provision that you have?

Make	Description	Installed
Guerbet	Illumena Neo	03/06/2021
Bracco	CT Express	09/07/2020
Bracco	CT Express	30/07/2020
Bracco	CT Express	11/10/2020
Bracco	CT Express	24/02/2020
Bracco	CT Express	29/03/2021
Guerbet	Optistar Elite	18/12/2017
Guerbet	Optistar Elite	22/05/2018
Guerbet	Optistar Elite	16/12/2019
Guerbet	Illumena Neo	28/11/2019

6. Who provides your RIS & PACS ?

HSE RIS and GE PACS

7. What AI do you have or are investigating for your practice?

Investigating in AI for chest xrays

8. Please share the makes, model, installation dates and location if off site (eg CDC or community hospital) of your MRI scanner?

Philips Ingenia 1.5T – Installed 18/12/2017

9. Do you have any service plans running on your MRI scanners. Please detail scope, length and provider?

The Service is covered from 1st Nov 2018 – 31st October 2032 under the MES including all replacements.

10. Do you repair damaged coils. If you do, how much have you spent on repairing them in the past twelve months?

Zero

11. How many contrast injectors do you have?

10

12. What procedures do you perform, and which are your most common?

Plain xray
CT
Non obstetrics US
Ante natal US
Fluoroscopy
MRI
Biopsy work
Mammography

CT, Xray and MRI are the most common

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review,

you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator