

27th June 2023

Our Ref: RFI 50985

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Trust IT Equipment and Systems**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 11 May 2023. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to Questions 2 – 4 and Questions 7 – 11 has been provided by the Planning, Performance & Informatics Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

In relation Questions 1, 5 & 6 I would like to advise you that the Trust has decided not to release the information that is held for the following reasons:

The information requested in Questions 1, 5 & 6 is exempt from release under Section 31 and Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

These are all qualified exemptions and so a Public Interest Test was carried out to decide if the information should be released or not. Having weighed up the factors for and against release, it was decided to withhold this information because the disclosure of such information would:

- a) (Section 31) Leave the Trust patients, clients & staff more vulnerable to crime
- b) (Section 38) permits the withholding of information if there is a risk to Health and Safety of Individuals within the Trust. To withhold there must be a likelihood of endangerment to the physical or mental health of any individual

Section 31 – Law Enforcement Section

Section 31(1)(a) states that information is exempt if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. ICO guidance states that this can be used to protect information on a public authority's systems which would make it more vulnerable to crime. It can be used by a public authority that has no law enforcement function:

- To protect the work of one that does
- To withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime

Section 38 – Health and safety

Section 38 states that as a security attack may lead to the placing of patient and client information into the public domain, the release of the requested information could potentially lead to harm for a number of patients (in a mental health context or may lead to physical harm)

The Trust believes there is a link between the risk endangerment for data subjects and the disclosure of the requested information. There would likely be a substantial detrimental effect on the physical or mental health of patients and clients, should the requested information be released

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice in respect of Questions 1, 5 & 6.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital (informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Manager (Interim)

We would be grateful if you could help in answering our request for information for the following questions; answering for A-J on questions 1-8.

- a) Photocopiers/MFDs (Multi-Functional Device)***
- b) Printers***
- c) Print room / reprographic***
- d) Desktops***
- e) Laptops***
- f) Displays***
- g) Network***
- h) cyber security***
- i) infrastructure***
- j) audio visual***

Q2. What is the length of the contracts, more specifically their end date, with the named IT resellers in question 1.

Q3. What year and month is the next hardware refresh due?

Q4. Please name the number of devices deployed by the NHS/Fire service/university/council/school?

Q7. Details on how these were procured. i.e. By Framework:

i. Procurement method

ii. If Framework, please state which one.

Q8. Do you normally purchase equipment as services or as a capital?

A. For the categories listed from A to H please refer to Attachment 1 – Trust Equipment and Systems Data.
In relation to i) infrastructure please can you provide further clarification on what this refers to.

Regarding j) Audio Visual, this is currently still with the service under review and as soon as I have a response it will be released to you.

Q9. What is your annual print/copy volume and spend?

A9. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

Volume	38,660,996
Spend	£471,500

Q10. Who is the person(s) within your organization responsible for the MFD's, print hardware, and supplies contract(s)? Please provide their title and their contact details.

Q11. Who is responsible for purchasing end user devices such as laptops, desktops, networking, infrastructure, cyber security, displays and accessories? Please provide their title, and their contact details.

A10,11. The Assistant Director of Technology & Telecoms.
Tel: 02890561404