

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your Trust. The questions relate to the use of insourcing providers to deliver elective care in the financial year 2023/24.

Please could you complete the attached excel sheet to provide me with an answer to the following:

1. Total Spend

What was the total amount spent by the Trust on insourcing services during the financial year 2024/25?

2. List of Providers

Please provide a list of all external providers engaged to deliver insourcing services during 2024/25.

3. Spend per Provider

For each provider listed in response to Question 2, please state the total amount paid to that provider for insourcing services during 2024/25.

4. Services Delivered

For each provider, please list the types of clinical services or specialties they delivered (e.g. endoscopy, dermatology, ophthalmology, etc.).

Please see below. There was reference to both 23/24 and 24/25 and so both have been provided

We have reviewed your request and can confirm that the total spend and the services delivered are as follows:

Insourcing Spend Summary

2023/24

Specialty	Provider	Amount Paid
Endoscopy	Commercially sensitive	£223,719.00
Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre	Commercially sensitive	£698,255.00
Total		£921,974.00

2024/25

Specialty	Provider	Amount Paid
Ophthalmology	Commercially sensitive	£433,261.30
Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre	Commercially sensitive	£1,531,319.66
Total		£1,964,580.96

Specialty	Provider	Amount Paid
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Exemption Applied – Section 43(2)

The names of the providers engaged to deliver insourcing services during both 2023/24 and 2024/25 have been withheld under **Section 43(2)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This section exempts information where its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

Disclosure of the provider names, in conjunction with their associated fees and specialties, could:

- Undermine the Trust's ability to negotiate future insourcing contracts on competitive terms;
- Prejudice the commercial interests of the providers by revealing pricing and service relationships to competitors;
- Result in a loss of commercial confidence that could reduce the Trust's ability to engage with competitive providers in the future.

Public Interest Test

We recognise that there is a public interest in promoting transparency and accountability in the use of public funds, particularly in relation to NHS spending on private or external services.

However, we believe that this public interest is outweighed by the need to protect the commercial viability of current and potential future providers, and to maintain the Trust's ability to secure best value for money in ongoing and future procurements.

Disclosure would likely reduce supplier engagement, hinder competition, and could lead to higher costs for the Trust and the public in the long term.

As such, we conclude that the balance of the public interest lies in withholding the names of providers under Section 43(2).

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

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

Our Ref: 269

April 2025

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>