Our Ref: 377 June 2025



# **Freedom of Information Act Request**

https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/127d884a-d193-4eb8-a4eb-4ed11062c79f?origin=SearchResults&p=4

## DBTH410CLIN-AJ-2024-25 DBTH Ultrasound Insourcing

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

What KPIs are used to measure the success of the contract?

Deliver 75 hours of non-obstetric ultrasound scanning (NOUS)

over 5 days per week

- Expected throughput: 52 scans/day
- All scans reported on the same day
- Staff rotas delivered at least 14 days prior to session dates
- Attendance at performance / audit meetings

Could you please provide a copy of the service/product specification given to all bidders for when this contract was last advertised?



How did the insourcing team integrate with hospital IT systems (e.g., electronic patient records, imaging, lab systems)?

Insourced team had access to the Radiology Information System whilst working on site – there has been no external data sharing. Appointments were booked internally by the Trust

What access did insourcing staff have to hospital resources and facilities?

Access to clinical system, department facilities

What is the cost per patient based on spend and patient numbers?

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Following a thorough review, the Trust is applying an exemption under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Commercial Interests – to this information.

#### Reason for Exemption:

Disclosing the cost per patient, which is derived from both financial spend and patient activity data, would reveal the unit cost of services provided by the Trust. This level of financial detail could prejudice the Trust's commercial interests by:

- Undermining the Trust's ability to secure best value in future contract negotiations.
- Providing potential competitors and suppliers with sensitive financial benchmarks that could be used to disadvantage the Trust in commercial discussions, particularly in procurement exercises or service tenders.
- Potentially disadvantaging the Trust when competing for partnerships, collaborations, or specialist commissioned services.

This information is not otherwise publicly available and its disclosure would weaken the Trust's competitive position in the marketplace.

#### Public Interest Test:

The Trust recognises that there is a general public interest in promoting openness and transparency within the NHS, particularly in relation to the use of public funds and the cost of healthcare services.

However, there is a stronger public interest in protecting the Trust's ability to operate in a commercially competitive environment, which ultimately safeguards the effective use of NHS resources and the Trust's financial viability. If disclosure were to result in reduced competitiveness, the Trust could face higher costs, which would not be in the best interests of the public or the patients we serve.

On balance, the Trust considers that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

#### Advice and Assistance:

While we are unable to provide specific cost-per-patient data, the Trust routinely publishes financial information and performance metrics in its annual reports and accounts, which are available on our website. National cost benchmarking data and average treatment costs may also be available via NHS England or NHS Digital for some high-level service areas.

### **Annual Report & Accounts 2023–24** (PDF):

You can download the full report from DBTH's website, which includes financial statements, governance details, and performance metrics.

**DBTH Annual Report** 

### **Annual Report & Accounts** archive page:

A listing of previous years' accounts (e.g. 2019/20, 2018/19) is also available DBTH Annual Report

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# **NHS England**

# **Annual Report & Accounts 2023–24** (PDF – 15 Oct 2024):

The full financial statements, performance overview, and audited accounts for NHS England are here.

# **Annual Report**

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113

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