

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please provide the following recorded information relating to robotic-assisted surgical platforms currently available within your trust.

1. For each robotic-assisted surgical platform currently available within your trust, please provide:
 - Manufacturer – **Intuitive Surgical**
 - Model – **Davinci Xi**
 - Date acquired or first brought into service- **installed on the 30th of April 2024, Date First robotic case at DRI 16/5/2024**
 - Whether the platform is owned, leased, rented, or accessed via another arrangement – **Owned**
2. For each platform listed above, please specify the surgical specialties that use it. – **General Surgery and Urology**
3. For each platform, please provide the recorded source(s) of funding used to acquire or access it (e.g., trust capital, charitable funding, lease payments, donations, managed service agreements, third-party funding arrangements). - **Charitable Funds**
4. Where charitable or philanthropic funding contributed to the acquisition or access arrangements for any platform, please provide:
 - Name of the charitable organisation(s) - **Fred and Ann Green Fund**
 - Amount contributed by each - **Fully funded by Charitable Fund**
 - Date the funding was received or allocated - **Received in 24/25 aligned to spend**
5. Please provide the recorded annual cost of:
 - Maintenance or servicing
 - Consumables (if recorded separately)
 - The funding source(s) used to meet these costs (e.g., trust budgets, charitable sources, managed service contract, warranty)

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust can confirm that costs associated with robotic systems, including maintenance, servicing and consumables, are met through a combination of Trust budgets and contractual arrangements with third-party suppliers.

However, the Trust is withholding detailed financial breakdowns, including annual costs for maintenance, servicing and consumables, under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Commercial Interests).

This information forms part of commercially sensitive contracts. Disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both the Trust and its suppliers by revealing pricing structures and contractual terms, which could undermine fair competition and weaken the Trust's negotiating position in future procurement and contract renewal exercises.

Public interest test

The Trust recognises the public interest in transparency regarding NHS expenditure. However, there is also a strong public interest in ensuring that the Trust is able to obtain best value for money when entering into commercial agreements. Releasing detailed contractual cost information could adversely affect future negotiations and procurement outcomes, potentially increasing costs to the public purse. On balance, the Trust considers that the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

6. For each platform, please confirm whether it was acquired via an NHS Supply Chain framework or another procurement route, as recorded. **NHSSC Framework direct award**

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

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