

Freedom of Information Act Request

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

Please provide me with the following information regarding spending on insourcing, by which I mean the definition given by NHS England here:

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.england.nhs.uk%2Flong-read%2Fguidance-for-trusts-on-the-use-of-insourcing%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cd.wraith%40nhs.net%7C2465fec54d804a0f698808de84e3e719%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C639094311533681224%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIlwLjAuMDAwMCIiOiJlZXAzMilsIkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=S1g3ZHoublkC2DWr6AErBj8klo8YuqaDYhEE8qllkms%3D&reserved=0>

I'd be grateful if you could provide this information to me in either a spreadsheet or .csv format.

1. The total amount spent by the Trust on clinical insourcing services for the financial years 2023-24, 2024-25, and the current financial year to date (2025-26).

Financial Year	Total Spend (£)
2023/24	£922k
2024/25	£1,965k
2025/26	£1,047k

2. For each of the financial periods specified above (2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 to date), please provide:

2.a. The name of each clinical insourcing services provider used by the Trust.

Section 43(2) – Commercial Interests

The Trust has withheld the names of individual insourcing providers under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust and the third-party suppliers.

Disclosure of provider-level information, when combined with the associated spend and specialty, would:

- Reveal commercially sensitive pricing structures and service rates agreed with individual providers;
- Undermine the Trust's ability to secure competitive rates in future procurement exercises by disclosing benchmark pricing to the market;
- Allow current and potential suppliers to gain insight into the Trust's commissioning activity and financial thresholds, weakening the Trust's negotiating position;
- Prejudice the commercial interests of the suppliers themselves by disclosing contract values and service delivery arrangements in a competitive market.

Public Interest Test

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and the Trust has considered the public interest in disclosure.

Factors in favour of disclosure:

- Promotes transparency and accountability in the use of public funds;
- Supports public understanding of how insourcing is used to support NHS service delivery.

Factors in favour of withholding:

- Protects the Trust's ability to obtain best value for money in future procurements;
- Prevents distortion of competition within the insourcing market;
- Avoids financial detriment to both the Trust and its suppliers.

Conclusion:

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

Additional Information

The Trust has provided information at an aggregated level by specialty to support transparency, while ensuring that commercially sensitive information is not disclosed.

2.b. The specific clinical service provided by each company (e.g., ophthalmology, endoscopy, ENT).

2.c. The total amount spent on each specific provider.

2023/24

Specialty	Provider Name	Amount Paid (£)
Endoscopy	Withheld	£223,719.00
Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre	Withheld	£698,255.00

2024/25

Specialty	Provider Name	Amount Paid (£)
Ophthalmology	Withheld	£433,261.30
Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre	Withheld	£1,531,319.66

2025/26 (YTD)

Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre	Withheld	£1,046,890.00
--	----------	---------------

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.

Our Ref:179

March 2026

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/>