



**The Clatterbridge
Cancer Centre**
NHS Foundation Trust

Clatterbridge Road
Bebington
Wirral
CH63 4JY

Tel: 0151 556 5000
Web: www.clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk

Date: 19 March 2021

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 57-2021

Thank you for your email dated the 21st February 2021, requesting information in relation to weighing devices and electronic patient record systems and incidents.

The information that you require is as follows:

Please can I request the following information for your Trust under the Freedom of Information Act please. Where information is unavailable or too difficult to obtain for one question please could you provide information for any other questions where the information is available:

- **The name of the supplier/s who service your weighing devices (baby scales, chair scales, floor scales, column scales, patient transfer scales, bench scales for example)**
Seca United Kingdom
- **How many weighing devices are covered by this contract?**
The Trust currently has 71 height / weight stations or stand / chair scales
- **What standard (or average) price per scale do you pay for servicing**
Exempt under Section 43(2) –Prejudice to commercial interests of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Section 43(2): Commercial Interests

We have carefully considered your request and although we hold the information we have concluded that we will not be able to provide you with the information you have requested and we will rely on the exemption under Section 43(2) –Prejudice to commercial interests of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”).

Section 43(2) of the Act provides that information is exempt from disclosure if the information would or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity). One of the provisions of Section 43 relates to the disclosure of information where such disclosure might have an adverse effect on procurement and own commercial interests.

The Trust, as a public body is mindful that in order to engage this exemption we must demonstrate that disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice or harm the commercial interests of any person (this can include the public authority holding it).

The term “would ...prejudice” has been defined as it is more likely than not to occur whereas “would likely....prejudice” is a lower threshold. The Trust has applied the prejudice test under Section 43 and we are content that the requirements of the test have been met.

Having reached the conclusion that the prejudice test has been met, we have also considered whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Public Interest Test

Factors in favour of disclosure

- The Trust recognises that there is a public interest in the disclosure of information which facilitates the accountability and transparency of public bodies for decisions.

Factors in favour of non-disclosure

- There is a public interest in the Trust being able to work within competitive markets where that results in a financial or resource benefit.
- Disclosure of the information would identify tailored pricing structures, the application of the Freedom of Information Act should not prejudice the fair operation of commercial markets and that suppliers should not face undue risks of harm from doing business with the NHS by disclosure of information
- Releasing the information would potentially create a lack of trust from current and future providers, thus restricting future competition which would prejudice the Trust’s ability to obtain best value and quality of service

Having carefully considered the public interest test we have concluded that there is a strong public interest in maintaining the fair and proper operation of commercial markets for both the suppliers and the Trust.

Taking the above into consideration, having applied the necessary, relevant tests and taking all the current circumstances into consideration we are content that the requirements of all necessary and relevant tests have been met and the application of the exemption under Section 43(2) is appropriate on this occasion.

- The date that the servicing contract ends.
Service renewal is July 2021
- The value of total spend on weighing devices excluding servicing in the last 3 years split by year

Year	Spend (£)
2018/19	1,771
2019/20	959
2020/21	7,201

- The value of spend by weighing device supplier in the last 3 years split by year.
As above, the Trust's only supplier is Seca United Kingdom
- Do you have any weighing devices integrated directly or indirectly to an electronic patient records system (EPR)?
Not currently, but the Trust has purchased the connectivity modules required for this from SECA and are waiting for financial approval with regards to annual license fees before integrating this
- Which electronic patient records system do you use/plan to use?
Meditech
- If you haven't done so already, do you intend to integrate weighing scales to an EPR in the next 12-24 months?
Yes
- Do you use Welch Allen Vital signs monitors in the Trust, if so, how many and are any of these connected to weighing devices?
The Trust does use Welch Allen Vital signs monitors. There are 92 and these are standalone devices not connected to weighing devices
- How many incidents have you reported in the last 3 years which relate to an incorrect dose of vancomycin, gentamicin and alteplase?

Year	Number of incidents reported s which relate to an incorrect dose of vancomycin, gentamicin and alteplase
2018/19	2
2019/20	0
2020/21	2

- **How many incidents have you recorded in the last 3 years where an incorrect weight of the patient is mentioned in the report?**

Year	Number of incidents recorded in where an incorrect weight of the patient is mentioned in the incident record
2018/19	27
2019/20	4
2020/21	14

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>