

Freedom of Information Act Request

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

1. What are the biggest challenges your organisation currently faces in surveying and geospatial activity?

Under **Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000**, public authorities are required to provide access to **recorded information**. However, your request seeks **opinions and subjective assessments**, rather than specific documented records. The Act does not require public authorities to create new information, provide opinions, or generate subjective responses in order to answer a request.

2. Are you confident in your full knowledge of the condition and knowledge of your impact on our local environment?

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3. What are your organisation's key strategic objectives for the next 12-24 months, and how does surveying and geospatial fit into these?

Our NHS Trust's strategic objectives for the next 12-24 months are outlined in our Annual Report, which sets out our priorities in areas such as patient care, sustainability, digital transformation, and estate management.

Regarding **surveying and geospatial activity**, this may relate to estate planning, infrastructure improvements, environmental sustainability, or compliance with regulatory requirements. If relevant recorded information exists—such as policies, reports, or strategy documents—these can be provided where applicable.

To ensure we provide you with the most relevant information, we recommend referring to our published strategic documents, which may be available on our website

<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/about-us/how-we-are-run/annual-report/>

<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/dbth-operational-plan-2024-25/>

. If you require specific recorded information that is not publicly available, please clarify your request.

4. Please detail any planned development of sites or assets

After careful consideration, we are unable to provide this information under the following exemptions of the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**:

Section 43(2) – Prejudice to Commercial Interests

Disclosure of planned site or asset developments may prejudice the Trust's commercial interests by revealing sensitive information related to ongoing negotiations, procurement, or contractual discussions. Releasing such details could negatively impact our ability to secure competitive agreements, potentially increasing costs to the NHS and affecting financial planning.

Section 36(2)(b)(i) & (ii) – Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

Planned developments often involve internal deliberations, risk assessments, and strategic decision-making. Disclosure could **inhibit the free and frank provision of advice and free exchange of views**, impacting the Trust's ability to make well-informed decisions in the public interest.

Public Interest Test

Both exemptions are **qualified exemptions**, requiring a public interest test. While we recognise the public interest in transparency around NHS estate management, we must balance this against the need to protect sensitive commercial and strategic discussions. Premature disclosure could **jeopardise negotiations, drive up costs, and limit the Trust's ability to operate effectively**.

On this basis, we conclude that withholding this information is in the public interest at this time. However, where appropriate, details of approved and publicly announced developments may be available via our website: <https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/dbth-operational-plan-2024-25/>

5. Do you have a supplier for drainage mapping and surveying?

No

6. If so, please can you supply details of the contractual arrangements in place including date of award, details of any Framework used or link to the advertisement, contract value and duration

7. If not, please can you indicate what evaluation of the requirement for surveying and geospatial works have been undertaken?

only surveying carried out is for capital projects which is carried out on a case by case basis.

8. Please share your planned procurement pipeline for surveying and geospatial works for the next 12 months

No plan,

9. How do you engage with potential new suppliers—through open tenders, direct engagement, or supplier days?

This would be procured via standard procurement procedures.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTH) engages with new suppliers through its Procurement Department, which is responsible for ensuring value for money while maintaining quality across the Trust. The department oversees the procurement process, including the negotiation of supply contracts and frameworks under the NHS Standard Terms and Conditions of Contract. These contracts require suppliers to have appropriate anti-slavery and human trafficking policies in place.

dbth.nhs.uk

For suppliers interested in working with DBTH, it is advisable to contact the Head of Procurement, Richard Somerset, via email at r.somerset@nhs.net. Engaging with the Procurement Department will provide guidance on the Trust's procurement processes and requirements, ensuring that potential suppliers understand the standards and expectations for collaboration.

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Additionally, suppliers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Trust's policies and procedures related to supplies and purchasing, which are available on the DBTH website. This includes understanding the procurement toolkit and the supplier and manufacturer representative policy, which outline the necessary steps and considerations for establishing a successful partnership with the Trust.

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10. Please can you confirm the individual responsible for managing your surveying and geospatial contracts or wider development contracts and provide their contact details and role title?

See above

11. Please provide a list of frameworks that you procure related services through

12. Do you plan to repurpose any sites for renewable energy or solar farms?

Not that I am aware of.

13. Do you have any issues with subsidence in your properties? If so, where?

No

14. When developing/purchasing/selling a site, how do you verify that the boundaries are correct?

Use a legal team where appropriate.

If any part of this request requires clarification or falls outside your scope, please let me know at your earliest convenience. If any exemptions apply, I kindly ask that you provide an explanation along with any relevant exemptions cited.

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/>