Our Ref: 138

FEB 2025



Freedom of Information Act Request

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

Please can you provide the annual spend with the below suppliers from Jan 2024 to Jan 2025. Please note this information is not commercially sensitive as all you will be providing is the total money spent with each supplier, not any detail of goods bought.

The Suppliers are:
CEF
Edmundson Electrical
Rexel UK Ltd
Yess Electrical

Please can this be provided as a PDF.

After careful consideration, we regret to inform you that we are unable to provide the requested information, as it is exempt under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Commercial Interests).

Disclosing the total spend with individual suppliers could prejudice the **commercial interests** of both the NHS Trust and the suppliers involved. This information could be used to infer pricing structures, bargaining positions, and contractual relationships, which may undermine future negotiations and impact competition.

We acknowledge your position that the request does not seek details of goods purchased; however, the release of total spend figures alone may still provide commercially valuable insights that could be used by competitors or other third parties to the detriment of the NHS Trust and its suppliers.

As part of applying this exemption, we have conducted the required **public interest test.** While we recognize the public interest in transparency and accountability regarding public spending, we consider that the **potential commercial harm outweighs the benefits of disclosure in this instance.**

If you wish to request an internal review of this decision, please contact d.wraith@nhs.net.

Further, if you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) at www.ico.org.uk.