

**NHS Foundation Trust** 

**Information Governance Department** 

Suite 9 Buckingham Row Brick Kiln Lane Wigan WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10106

Date Received: 5th September 2024

Response Due: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

Date: 20th September 2024

## Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I am writing to formally submit a Freedom of Information (FOI) request concerning the procurement and award of contracts under Lot 1 of the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework for providing temporary nurses and clinical staffing. I kindly request your assistance in addressing the following inquiries:

- 1. Compliance with Public Contracts Regulations 2015: Please provide information on how the Trust ensures that the awarding of contracts under Lot 1 of the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework adheres to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
  - The Trust does not use the CCS REM6281 Framework. The Trust uses the Health Trust Europe TWS II Framework for any Nursing and AHP / HSS requirements in conjunction with NHS Professionals.
- 2. Non-discrimination and Fairness: How does the Trust ensure that it does not discriminate or act unfairly towards suppliers when selecting contractors under this framework?

  N/A.
- 3. Supplier Invitation: Does the Trust invite all approved suppliers under the framework to bid or supply services, as stipulated by the framework's rules? If so, could you provide evidence or examples of this process in practice? N/A.
- 4. Supplier Selection Process: Please outline the legal justification the Trust uses when selecting certain suppliers while excluding others under the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework. N/A.

- 5. Compliance with Selection Criteria: Could you explain the process by which suppliers are selected under the framework, particularly concerning ensuring compliance with the selection criteria set out in the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015?
  N/A.
- 6. Further Competition Process: Could you describe the process your Trust follows for further competition under the Workforce Alliance RM6281 framework? Specifically, do you use direct awards, or do you invite suppliers for further competition for Lot 1? Please provide evidence to support your response.

  N/A.
- 7. Evidence of Compliance: Kindly provide any documentation or evidence demonstrating how the Trust ensures compliance with the aforementioned regulations and framework rules when awarding contracts under Lot 1 for the provision of temporary nurses and clinical staffing. N/A.
- 8. Legal Queries and Proceedings: Please provide contact details (department and individual, if available) for submitting legal queries or initiating legal proceedings related to procurement processes under this framework.

  N/A.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Tabitha Gardner Chief Finance Officer

T. en.

## PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111