

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

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/2024/9726

Date Received: 19th March 2024

Response Due: 18th April 2024

Date: 14th June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 19th March 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:

1. **Approximately how many endoscopes does the trust own?**
The Trust owns 74 endoscopes.
2. **What brands of endoscope does the Trust own?**
Olympus.
3. **On average how old are the endoscopes that the Trust owns?**
Less than a year old.
4. **Approximately how many of the trust endoscopes are under OEM Warranty?**
All of them.
5. **Does the trust subcontract the maintenance of endoscopes and associated equipment such as stack systems and monitors to an outside provider(s) or does it maintain the devices using internal engineers?**
Internal and External.
6. **If an external provider(s) is used, what is the name of the company(s)?**
Olympus & Ergea.
7. **If an external provider(s) is used, what was the value of the contract when awarded?**
This information is being withheld under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please see below.

8. If an external provider(s) is used, what is the contract type – PPM/ Fully-Comprehensive / Ad-hoc support?

Olympus – Complete+.

Ergea – Fully comprehensive.

9. If an external provider(s) is used, what is the contract renewal date(s)?

Supplier	Item	Cover Expiry
Althea/Ergea	Endoscopes and Electro-Medical Equipment (RAEI Endo)	30-Apr-24
Althea/Ergea	Endoscopes and Electro-Medical Equipment (LEIGH Endo)	30-Apr-24
Olympus	Stack System - ELE Wireless ZWG2	30-Sep-24
Olympus	CF-HQ290L Lucera Colonoscope & Gastrosopes	21-Jan-25
Olympus	Electromedical Equipment	21-Jan-25
Olympus	Electro Medical Equipment	2-Feb-25
Olympus	Gastrosopes	21-Feb-25

10. Does your contract include the provision of loan endoscopes to temporarily replace endoscopes that are in for repair?

Yes.

11. Please provide the name, email address and phone number of the role responsible for managing endoscopy equipment within the trust.

Katie Edwards.

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members, as large numbers of unsolicited emails/telephone calls, could cause disruption by blocking email accounts/telephone lines thus preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

12. Please provide the name, email address, and phone number of the individual responsible for managing endoscopy contracts within the trust?

Alistair Nicholson, Katie Bielecki and Katie Edwards.

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members, as large numbers of unsolicited emails/telephone calls, could cause disruption by blocking email accounts/telephone lines thus preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

13. If endoscopy is part of a Managed Equipment Service (MES) at the trust, please provide details of the service provider and specify the services provided including whether staffing is part of the MES.

N/A

Section 43(2) – Commercial interests

Information regarding costing has been withheld under section 43(2) of the FOIA if its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

Section 43 of the FOIA is a qualified exemption and is subject to the Prejudice Test and the Public Interest Test.

Prejudice test

We confirm that we have carried out a full prejudice test and that, on the balance of probability, the Trust's interests would be prejudiced in the event of disclosure. Therefore, we confirm that the Prejudice Test is engaged.

Public interest test

We have also carried out the Public Interest Test to ascertain whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the public interest in withholding the requested information:

Public interest in disclosure of the information:

- We acknowledge that there is public interest in transparency around how the Trust engages with suppliers and procurement.
- We acknowledge that there is public interest in the Trust's finances.

Public interest in withholding of the information:

- **Protecting public finances** – As a public authority, the Trust must ensure that it obtains the best value for money. Disclosure of the information would be likely to affect the quality of future offers provided to the Trust. It is therefore firmly in the public interest not to disclose any information which would affect commercial offers made to the Trust, which in turn will affect the Trust's finances.
- **Ensuring fair competition** – Information provided to the Trust during the procurement process contains sensitive competition information. It is not in the public interest to disclose information which would affect free and fair competition.
- **Transparency** – We understand that there is public interest in how the Trust engages with suppliers. However, we consider that the information held by the Trust would not significantly further the public understanding of its relationship with these suppliers beyond what has already been disclosed in this response.
- **Reputation damage or loss of confidence** - It is firmly in the public interest that the Trust takes all steps to protect its reputation around information handling. It is not in the public interest to do anything which would jeopardise our ability to maintain strong working relationships with third parties.

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

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