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Request for Information Reference: 07.22.16

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

18<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to IT Systems and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

- 1. Could you please provide responses to the following questions in relation to Imaging/Radiology within the Trust/Health Board. The name and email address of:**

**The Clinical Lead that is responsible for Imaging**

Dr Robert Briggs – [r.briggs1@nhs.net](mailto:r.briggs1@nhs.net)

**The General Manager that is responsible for Imaging**

Judith Allen – [judithallen2@nhs.net](mailto:judithallen2@nhs.net)

**The Service Manager that is responsible for Imaging**

Not applicable

- 2. Can you please forward responses to the questions below regarding your trust's LIMS, Oncology, and Clinical Noting systems.**

**Please enter 'No System Installed' or 'No Department' under supplier name if your trust does not use the system or have the department:**

**a) System type – Laboratory Information Management System**

**Supplier name** – Cerner

**System name** – Laboratory Information Management System

**Date installed** – October 2021

**Contract expiration** – 2031

**Is this contract annually renewed?** - Yes/No – No

**Do you currently have plans to replace this system?** - Yes/No – No

**Procurement framework** – Mini Comp – NHS Body

**Other systems it integrates with?** – No – Yes, many systems

**Total value of contract (£)** – £5m

**Notes** - e.g. we are currently out to tender

**b) System type – Oncology**

**Supplier name** – Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

**System name** – Somerset Cancer Register

**Date installed** – December 2017

**Contract expiration** – March 2023

**Is this contract annually renewed?** - Yes/No – No

**Do you currently have plans to replace this system?** - Yes/No – No

**Procurement framework** – N/A

**Other systems it integrates with?** – eCAMIS, CRIS

**Total value of contract (£)** – £74,941

**Notes** - e.g. we are currently out to tender

**c) System type – Clinical Noting**

**Supplier name** – Main Systems are Cerner/Civica/TPP

**System name** – Millennium/Cito/SystmOne

**Date installed** – In current implementation/2022/2011

**Contract expiration** – 2031

**Is this contract annually renewed?** - Yes/No – No/No/No

**Do you currently have plans to replace this system?** - Yes/No – No/No/No

**Procurement framework** – Mini Comp – NHS Body

**Other systems it integrates with?** – Millennium – Scanning Provider Systems/GP Systems

The Trust are unable to provide the information as requested on the grounds that this information is commercially sensitive and has, therefore, been withheld pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

Section 43 (2) exempts from disclosure the following:

(2) Information, the disclosure of which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person including those of the public authority holding the information.

Our supplier has made clear representation that pricing for the service is commercially sensitive information, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice their commercial interests, as it would provide alternative bidders with an understanding of their costs (which would not be reciprocated) with respect to similar contracts in the NHS, thereby undermining their ability to tender, on fair and equal terms, for such contracts. The Trust considers that there is potential for such harm to arise with reasonable proximity and, therefore, that the exemption under Section 43(2) of the Act is engaged.

The Trust acknowledges the public interest in publication of the information; specifically the interest in transparency with respect to expenditure on services, as a means of assisting the taxpayer in evaluating their value for money. However, there is a competing public interest in preserving fair market competition and the ability of public authorities to obtain value for money when sourcing services. In previous rulings the Information Commissioner has made clear that the Freedom of Information Act is not intended to distort fair market competition. In this case, the Trust therefore considers that the public interest in preserving fair competition outweighs the general public interest in transparency and is therefore applying the exemption under Section 43(2).

**Notes - e.g. we are currently out to tender**

**System definitions:**

**Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) – Software that allows you to effectively manage pathology testing and reporting. By using a LIMS, your lab can automate workflows, integrate instruments, and manage samples and associated information.**

**Oncology – An Oncology Information Management solution supports the multidisciplinary teams involved in the care of patients with cancer.**

**Clinical Noting - A clinical noting documentation system that enables the electronic recording, storage and retrieval recording of patient medical records related to a patient's diagnosis and care during an inpatient hospital visit or encounter.**

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs).

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**