

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request Ref: NGFOI 19/20: 212

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 18/07/2019.

I am pleased to be able to provide you with the following information:

- 1) *Current medical equipment contracts – pressure area care*
 - a) *I would like to know what pressure area care devices are used in your trust. Please include details regarding pressure relieving mattresses and other pressure redistribution devices e.g. pressure relieving cushions, foot protectors, pads etc.*
 - b) *For each of these devices, how many of each device are used in your trust per year?*
 - c) *For each of these devices, please detail which company these devices are acquired/bought from and the type of contract this company is operating under*
 - d) *Please detail when did each of these contracts start? (If no formal contract, then please detail when purchasing from the company began)*
 - e) *How long is each contract for?*
 - f) *What is the expenditure on each of these contracts per year? (If no formal contract, then please detail how much is spent on each type of device from each company per year)*
 - g) *For each of these devices, please detail how they were acquired (e.g. acquired through the NHS supply chain or acquired through direct negotiation with companies?)*
 - h) *What is the overall expenditure on pressure area care devices in your region per year?*
 - i) *Does your trust have a preference for a company offering all pressure area care devices providing all of the components of 1a) (e.g. pressure relieving mattress, pressure relieving cushions etc.) or do you instead opt for a collection of different companies each providing one (or more) of the aforementioned devices in 1a) (e.g. separate pressure relieving cushions, pressure relieving mattresses etc.*

I would like all the information from 1a to 1g in the form of a table (excel if convenient)

<i>Pressure area care device</i>	<i>Number used in trust per year</i>	<i>Company device acquired from</i>	<i>Type of contract company is operating under</i>	<i>Date contract began</i>	<i>Length of contract</i>	<i>Expense on these devices per year</i>	<i>Method of acquisition</i>
Repose wedge	133	Frontier Therapeutics Ltd	None	2017	N/A	*	Purchase
Repose boots	40	Frontier Therapeutics Ltd	None	2018	N/A	*	Purchase
Repose cushions	2	Frontier Therapeutics Ltd	None	2018	N/A	*	Purchase

Hybrid mattresses	150	Hill Rom	NHSSC	2019	4 years. No commitment given; we access and purchase as required.	*	Lease
Invacare mattresses	125	Invacare Limited	NHSSC	2017	N/A	*	Purchase
Parafricta Bootees	259	Parafricta	None	2017	N/A	*	Purchase
Slide sheets	9579	MIP	NHSSC	2017	N/A	*	Purchase

***Your request for this information has been given careful consideration. However, the Trust is not able to give you the information because it is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) Commercial Interests. To provide the information as requested, would be disclosing information which is commercially sensitive and could endanger the commercial interests of the Trust.**

If, after this, there is still time left as per the FOI Act then please answer the questions of this next section (Section 2):

2) *Procurement methods*

- a) *Which procurement method do you use (e.g. restricted/single source/open tendering/ any quality provider etc.) to identify which supplier will deliver pressure area care devices*
The procurement method utilised will be accessing an existing framework where due diligence and process have been carried out according to public sector procurement rules (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/public-sector-procurement-policy>). This process is run by NHSSC, not by the Trust. Where spend is below our Standing Financial Instruction's (SFIs) no contract commitment is made by the trust.
- b) *Please detail the procurement method procedure once a pressure area care device contract has ended (e.g. do you typically offer contracts with the same supplier or do you reopen the tendering process to all potential suppliers/specific suppliers)*
As above, but clinical staff are involved in case of innovation or market changes.
- c) *How often do you invite suppliers to tender for pressure area care devices?*
On spend where our internal SFI's dictate the usual is 4 years.
- d) *Please detail the number of providers which tendered for a pressure area care device contract each time you invited providers to tender for contracts.*
I can confirm on behalf of the Trust and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not collate the information that you have requested. This is because the process is run by NHSSC and not by the Trust. This information may be available from NHSSC. Their website is: <https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/>
- e) *Detail the criteria by which you assess a supplier that is tendering for a pressure area care device contract and please rank these criteria in terms of the weighting given to each component.*
Please see response to question 2a.

