

New Hospital Programme - Hospital 2.0 Design Template

Reference Number: RDF2082-23
Date of Response: 18/01/2024

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Could I please put a Freedom of Information request.

Schemes in the New Hospital Programme were asked to complete a template to test out Hospital 2.0 (a standardized hospital design) and NHP assumptions and associated costs. Trusts were asked to submit their results in August. I request the information listed in the points below.

- 1. A copy of all templates submitted by the trust to the Department of Health and Social Care related to the above since August.*
- 2. A copy of all covering emails sent by the trust for the above submissions.*
- 3. All letters sent to the Department of Health and Social Care and/or the New Hospital Programme by the trust in relation to these submissions.*

The Trust issues a refusal notice for this request under Section 17 of the Act. The following exemptions also apply:

Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act: -

The information requested is commercially sensitive and its release would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

In applying the exemption under Section 43(2) the Freedom of Information Act the Trust has balanced the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. The Trust has considered all the relevant factors in the public interest test and concluded that the benefit to the public in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in releasing the information requested because of the prejudices and losses that would potentially affect the Trust and patients. As such this information is being withheld under Section 43 (2).

Public Interest Test (PIT) - Non- Disclosure: -

We consider that the disclosure of the commercially sensitive information included in the templates and submissions would prejudice the interests of New Hospital Programme. If potential suppliers know what the estimated potential costs are,

disclosure of such information could then affect how suppliers bid for work from DHSC as part of the New Hospitals Programme in the future. The disclosure of information regarding Hospital 2.0 and its design is considered prejudicial to the commercial interests of the New Hospital Programme. The same applies to the potential costs of solutions. The Trust therefore is applying the S43 (commercial interests) exemption in response to the above questions.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For Disclosure

The Trust understands the need for openness and accountability, and it recognises the need for value of money.

Section 12 (1)

Due to the volume and complexity of the correspondence between the trust and NHP, this request falls under the FOI act Section 12 exemption. This is due to the cost and time prohibitive resource needed to comply. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting that information.

Section 21

In a bid to assist under Section 16 of the FOI Act, we also apply Section 21 regarding information publicly available elsewhere. The Trust is a public authority and is open and transparent about the use of public funds. This information may not be what you have asked for but where the data is not commercially sensitive, the Trust publishes regular updates on the new hospital programme on the Trust website.

Please see link as follows: [NHS Royal Devon | Our future hospital Northern Devon](#)