

Title

Electronic Patient Records / Software System

Reference Number: RDF1862-23

Date of Response: 06/10/2023

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).

1. *What Electronic Patient Records system does the Trust use?. Epic.*
2. *Does the Trust have a patient portal that allows patients to see their results, letters and appointments. Yes.*
3. *If you have surgical departments, how are the operating notes documented?*
 - *hand-written? - No*
 - *using specialised software? – Yes, Epic.*
4. *If you have an urology department:*
 - *What software system is used to track the JJ stents (Excel, other 3rd party software). Excel*
 - *What system or software is used to monitor patients with prostate cancer on active surveillance.~ EPIC.*

- If 3rd party software is used what is the associated cost?*

* Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Trust has considered all the relevant factors in the public interest test and has reached the conclusion that the benefit to the public in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in releasing the information requested, as a result of the prejudices and losses that would potentially affect the Trust and patients. The release could jeopardise the company's future positions, which would cause a detrimental knock on effect on the marketplace and would potentially limit the choices available to public authorities, including the Trust. This would potentially threaten the quality of products and services available to the Trust. The Trust considers that it is not in the public interest to do anything to undermine the competitive nature of the procurement process, and the disclosure of key information, as has been requested, could have that affect.

The Trust believes that the consequences of releasing the information are serious and the likelihood of this occurring is high. Therefore in conclusion, the Trust has reached the decision that the release of the information requested would be likely to be prejudicial to the commercial interests of the company concerned and the Trust, and that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in releasing the information, and as such the information is being withheld under section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For Non - Disclosure

The costs of the current service should not be released into the Public Domain because it would give the potential supplier an unfair advantage over other bidders when bidding for future work. That advantage would contravene the principle of fairness required from the Trust by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For Disclosure

The Trust understand the need for openness and accountability for tender processes and price, and it recognises the need for value of money.