

ENT Laser Systems

Reference Number: RDF2103-23

Date of Response: 14/12/23

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).

Questions:

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 we request the following information from your ENT Departments, ENT Theatres, and your ENT Procurement department.

- 1. Please advise if your Trust is in possession of the Laser Systems listed below, the Lasers will be clearly marked with A.R.C. Laser and are normally kept within the ENT Theatres. Answer: Yes*

If yes, please provide details along with Serial numbers Equipment list: ARC Laser - ENT Medical Devices:

- Nuvolas Laser System (514nm, 532nm) No*
- C-Las CO2 Laser System (ARC) No*
- TruBlue Laser System (445nm) Yes*
- Fox Laser system (514nm) No*
- Classic Laser system No*

- 2. Procurement ENT Department:*

*Please confirm if your Trust uses and orders the consumables below:
Answer: Yes*

- If yes, please advise purchase price of each.*
- ARC Laser - ENT & Laryngology Consumables:*
- LL28059S Otology Probes*
- LL11059S Otology Probes*
- LL28066S HiFlex Fibers*

Answer: Section 43(2)

The Trust holds this information. This information 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:

Excluded under Section 43 because releasing the costs of contracts would give potential suppliers an unfair advantage over other bidders when bidding for future work. That advantage would contravene the principle of fairness required from the Trust in Regulation 18 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The release of contract values would undermine the Trust's suppliers' competitiveness in the market and breach the Trust's contracts with suppliers, which typically require contract values to be kept confidential.

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.

3. Service/Maintenance contracts for Medical Lasers

Please confirm start date and expiry dates for any service contracts on the above lasers. Answer: Trublue laser – Service cover from 01/10/22 to 30/09/24.

Please advise us of the price of the contract and level of cover. Answer: Excluded under Section 43

Public Interest Test (PIT) - Non- Disclosure:

Releasing the costs of contracts would give potential suppliers an unfair advantage over other bidders when bidding for future work. That advantage would contravene the principle of fairness required from the Trust in Regulation 18 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The release of contract values would undermine the Trust's suppliers' competitiveness in the market and breach the Trust's contracts with suppliers, which typically require contract values to be kept confidential.