

Date: 22/09/2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013647 – Information technology

These questions have been piloted in a random subset of acute NHS trusts (sent on 25/7/17) to assess whether the information is available and whether the questions are clearly defined. With regard to Freedom of Information Act exemptions under section 31(1) and 43, I can confirm that a number of trusts were able to answer all of these questions in full (evidence available on request) while a number of these questions refer to information already in the public domain (for example, <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/may/12/global-cyber-attack-nhs-trusts-malware>, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-41060034>, <https://www.theinquirer.net/inquirer/news/3010060/windows-xp-in-use-at-less-than-five-per-cent-of-nhs-trust-claims-uk-defence-sec>).

This suggests that a) there is a public interest in the answers to these questions and b) there is no evidence that sharing information by other NHS trusts leads to prejudice to either "commercial interests" or "prevention or detection of crime". If you do choose to withhold information under a prejudice-based exemption, please include a documented and complete public interest test as per Information Commissioner's Office guidelines.

*Exemption 43 has been applied given it is commercially sensitive in that providing the information may compromise information security

Question (Part A)	Question (Part B)	Answer
Do you use electronic patient record systems for any part of your clinical records? If so, please provide the names of all the systems used and what they are used for?		Yes, Exemption 43
Do you use paper notes for any part of your clinical records? If so, please detail what they are used for?		Yes, paper notes are used for the majority of clinical records across the Trust. For example, paper clinical records are used for ward admissions, elective theatre procedures and elective outpatient appointments
Do you use an electronic system for the majority (>50%) of clinical note-taking for each of these encounters (part B)? If so, please detail the system(s) used; if not, please state if/when you intend to implement an electronic system for these encounters?	Inpatient	Yes, Exemption 43
	Outpatient	Yes, Exemption 43
	Maternity	Yes, Exemption 43
	Emergency Department	Yes, Exemption 43

Do you use an electronic system for each of the following purposes (part B)? If so, please detail the system(s) used; if not, please state if/when you intend to implement an electronic system for this purpose?	Documents (such as GP and clinic letters)	Yes, Exemption 43
	Prescribing drugs	Yes, Exemption 43
	Patient management or administration	Yes, Exemption 43
	Requesting and reviewing results of diagnostic tests (such as blood tests)	Yes, Exemption 43
	Viewing radiological and	Yes, Exemption 43

	nuclear imaging	
	Recording and monitoring vital signs (such as temperature, blood pressure)	Yes, Exemption 43
How many desktop or portable computers are currently managed by the trust? (An estimate is sufficient)		Exemption 43
Are there desktop or portable computers running Microsoft Windows XP or Microsoft Windows Vista in the trust? If so, please detail how many of each? (An estimate is sufficient)		Exemption 43
Have computers or servers managed by the trust been affected by malware in the last 2 years? If so, please detail the names of the malware involved (such as "Wannacry")?		Exemption 43
Do you have a policy for selecting Microsoft security updates to be applied? If so, is the policy to apply all security updates or only a subset?		Exemption 43
Have all Microsoft security updates described as "critical" in the past 2 years been applied within 1 month? If not, please detail how many were not applied within this time? (An estimate is sufficient)		Exemption 43