



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-298

Date: 11th September 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 11th August 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Specialist seating.

As of 1st November 2014, University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore, the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Please can you provide the last 3 years spend on specialist seating used for patients ie recliners and tilt in space chairs not general staff or waiting type seating, excluding VAT, broken down by year i.e. 2020, 2021 and 2022. There is no preference on if this is fiscal or calendar year.

A1 See below:

2021 - £24835
2022 - £59064
2023 - £4687

Q2 In each of these years please could you highlight the 3 models you purchased/rented the most of by quantity.

A2 We order various types of furniture and we are unable to identify what is actually classed as "*specialist seating*"

Q3 Do you purchase outright or rent/hire your specialist seating for the Trust. If there is a mixture, please could you quantify the split per year for the last 3 years.

A3 As above however this would be purchased.

Q4 Please confirm which manufacturers of specialist seating your organisation purchased/rented from i.e. Ocura, DHG, Seating Matters, Remtec, Vivid Care, Premiere, Felgains Formal, Caremed. If multiple suppliers, please could you outline the top 3 by spend per year for 3 the last 3 years.

A4 Ocura, Teal, and H Jenkinson.

Q5 Are you currently in a specialist seating contract if so, who is this with, when does this run to and is there an agreed extension in place.

A5 The Trust is not in contract with a specialist seating supplier however contracts are in place until the 31st March 2024 for all other office/ward furniture.

Q6 Within the last 12 months has there been any entry to the Trusts risk register with regards to specialist seating and if so, has this been resolved or still open

A6 None

Q7 Please can you provide the details of your hospitals care or multidisciplinary team (MDT's) that collaborate to provide fundamental care for patients.

A7 MDT'S and Hospital care are Trust wide, therefore we are unable to answer this question.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records