

Ref. No: 0576
Date: 11/01/24
Subject: Clinical Insourcing Services

REQUEST

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am submitting a formal request for information related to your Trust's expenditure on clinical insourcing services from January 2023 to December 2023.

- Please provide details on the specialties for which the Trust utilised clinical insourcing during January 2023 – December 2023.
- Please specify the suppliers or service providers the Trust engaged for clinical insourcing during January 2023 – December 2023.
- Kindly disclose the details of the decision-maker(s) responsible for choosing clinical insourcing across the specified specialties.
- Please kindly confirm the amount spent on this contract to date.

For your convenience, I have outlined the requested information using the following template:

Speciality	Suppliers used for insourcing	Decision Maker(s) details	Total amount spent on insourcing within this speciality
<i>Speciality 1</i>			
<i>Speciality 2</i>			
<i>Speciality 3</i>			

Please fill in the respective details. I understand the resource constraints you may face and appreciate your efforts in providing this information. If there are any concerns or clarifications required, please feel free to communicate them.

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. Please provide details on the specialties for which the Trust utilised clinical insourcing during January 2023 – December 2023.

Section 12: cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

We do not categorise contracts as “insourcing” and as such to provide an accurate response would need to review invoiced expenditure at line level.

The invoice data for a 12-month period for St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust alone contains 77,000 invoices which would need to be rationalised and then reviewed. The invoices are electronic, so time taken is an extrapolated estimate of time taken to click on link, time taken for link to load, time taken for someone to read and make a decision whether or not the invoice is for an insourced clinical service or not.

Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust does not have to comply with a request where it is estimated that the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit is specified within the regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days answering the request, either wholly or partially.

2. Please specify the suppliers or service providers the Trust engaged for clinical insourcing during January 2023 – December 2023.

Please refer to the response to question one.

3. Kindly disclose the details of the decision-maker(s) responsible for choosing clinical insourcing across the specified specialties.

The decision makers would vary depending on a range of factors, including but not limited to, scope of service required, value, interdependencies with other services, speciality and requirement. For any queries, please contact the Trust’s Procurement Department – Procurement@sthk.nhs.uk.