

3 October 2023

Information Rights & Compliance Team 99 Waverley Road St Albans Hertfordshire AL3 5TL

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> > Our Ref: FOI/04805

Thank you for your request concerning contracts with Oxehealth and Oxevision.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

# 1. Figures of the annual cost paid to OxeHealth for annual licensing, use and maintenance of Oxevision equipment

The initial three year contract with Oxehealth was £31,650.

### 2. Figures relating to the initial instillation costs of Oxevision equipment

We have applied both S43(1) and S43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act to the further breakdown of this contract.

#### S43(1) – Trade Secret

A trade secret could be a technical secret or a trade secret. In this instance we believe the further breakdown of the contract value constitutes a trade secret because if disclosure could cause real (or significant) harm to the owner or be advantageous to any rivals.

#### S43(2) – Commercial Interests

Information is exempt if disclosure would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the public authority holding the information.

Both these exemptions are qualified exemptions and therefore subject to the public interest test and we have considered the reasons for and against disclosure below:

#### Reasons in favour of disclosure:

The Trust aims to be open and transparent

The public have right to know how public money is being spent

#### Reasons against disclosure:

The Trust is obliged to protect its commercial relationships with third parties; they must have confidence that their commercial information is secure when provided to the Trust. The release of this information is likely to prejudice our on-going relationship with these providers.

The Trust is obliged to protect its negotiating position in a competitive environment to ensure value for money in securing the best rate for future placements. Providing the breakdown of the total contract value could prejudice our bargaining position and give a rival an unfair advantage in terms of securing future contracts.

We feel that there is a greater public interest in non-disclosure due to the importance of ensuring a level commercial playing field and achieving best value in negotiations for public sector contracts.





For further information regarding S43 – Commercial Interests please follow this <u>link</u>.

# 3. Any additional documents (such as contracts, financial and business plans) relating to the finances of Oxevision equipment

It has come to our attention that you have been seeking extensive details concerning our contract with Oxehealth and a range of documents will be provided to you as per your previous request (FOI 4755).

We believe by providing those documents and the total contract value we have met our responsibility for transparency and disclosure.

Any further enquiries around this contract may be considered to be vexatious.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

## Sue Smith Information Rights Officer

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click <u>here</u>.

