

19 March 2024

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/05037

Thank you for your request concerning our Clinical Waste contract.

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

The details we require are as follows:

1. Suppliers who applied for inclusion on each framework/contract and were successful and not successful at the PQQ & ITT stages.

Existing contract was novated to the Trust from the incumbent Total Facilities Management (TFM) with Interserve.

2. Actual spend on this contract/framework (and any sub lots), from the start of the contract to the current date

We have applied S43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act to the specifics of this contract because the contract has gone out to tender; currently we are at the evaluation/moderation stage under the permissible extension¹.

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. This is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to the public interest test.

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 activity is conducted in a commercial environment and disclosing this information could inhibit future procurement exercises and our ability to ensure value for money should the expenditure of the current contract be within the public domain.

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.

¹ Section 43 – Information that constitutes a trade secret or may prejudice commercial interests

3. Start date and duration of framework/contract

Jan 2021 until completion of re-tender.

4. Could you please provide a copy of the service/product specification given to all bidders for when this contract was last advertised?

As we are currently in the tendering process we have also applied Section 43 – Information that constitutes a trade secret or may prejudice commercial interests to providing you with the specification. Please see the reasons given under question 2.

5. Is there an extension clause in the framework(s)/contract(s) and, if so, the duration of the extension?

Extension permissible only to allow for procurement process to be concluded.

6. Has a decision been made yet on whether the framework(s)/contract(s) are being either extended or renewed?

A new 3 year contract to be awarded from 1st April 2024.

7. Who is the Senior Officer (outside of procurement) responsible for this contract + contact information

Our Soft Facilities Management Services Manager is responsible for this contract.

In an effort to ensure that the Trust does not receive unsolicited communications resulting in direct marketing purposes and/or any potential malicious malware, the Trust does not routinely publish the names or contact details of staff other than those publicly available through our Trust website as exercised in individuals GDPR rights.

8. Who is the Infection Control Lead responsible for the Trust + contact information

Our [Chief Nursing Officer](#) is responsible for Infection Control.

In an effort to ensure that the Trust does not receive unsolicited communications resulting in direct marketing purposes and/or any potential malicious malware, the Trust does not routinely publish the names or contact details of staff other than those publicly available through our Trust website as exercised in individuals GDPR rights.

9. Who is the Procurement Lead for Clinical Waste contracts for the Trust + contact information

Hertfordshire and West Essex ICS NHS Procurement.

10. Who is the Environmental/Sustainability Lead for the Trust + contact information

Please see the answer to question 7.

11. Who is the Waste Management Lead for the Trust + contact information

Please see the answer to question 7.

12. Who is the Health and Safety Lead for the Trust + contact information.

Our Health, Safety and Security Lead

In an effort to ensure that the Trust does not receive unsolicited communications resulting in direct marketing purposes and/or any potential malicious malware, the Trust does not routinely publish the names or contact details of staff other than those publicly available through our Trust website as exercised in individuals GDPR rights.

13. Who is the current Clinical Waste incumbent (service provider)?

Rentokil Initial.

14. Does the Trust make use of reusable or disposable sharps containers and who is the service provider?

Not currently.

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 [here](#).

