## **Healthier Communities, Outstanding Care**



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**RE: Freedom of Information Request** 

8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 4th April 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. Does the authority share accounts payable or procurement functions with another authority or shared service function? If yes, who?
- 2. Which ERP system is used by the authority (e.g. Oracle, SAP, Advanced, Civica)?
- 3. Please state the total number and value of supplier transactions (invoices and credit notes) processed by Accounts Payable in the last financial year? 74,420 invoices to value of £326,252,627.87.
- 4. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party software to identify or protect against supplier payment errors (including duplicate, erroneous payments or potential fraud) before payment is made?
  - We don't utilise software, Integra will self-check by invoice number if placed on the same supplier, but we also utilise external support to review payments for duplicates.
- 4a. If yes, please state the name of the software, the engagement date, the current contract end date and the annual value of the contract awarded to the external organisation (or total value and contract length).
- 5. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party or 3rd party software to identify historical payment errors (including duplicate, erroneous payments or potential fraud)? Yes, we have used 2 companies, Liaison and Meridian.
- 5a. If yes, please state the name of the software or partner, the engagement date and the current contract end date and frequency of engagement (if not continuous). Please also provide the contract value or terms of engagement (if not a fixed fee). Liaison 20% of whatever they found / Meridian 20% of the first 20k then anything further lower percentage.

## Home, Community, Hospital.



- 5b. Please provide the value of monies recovered by the software or partner for the most recent financial year.
  - Liaison, value recovered £1,572.43.
- 6. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party or 3rd party software to reconcile supplier statements and identify overpayments or unclaimed credits on a regular basis? Yes, Using Liaison and Meridian.
- 6a. If yes, please provide the name of the provider/software and a brief description of frequency/level of support.
  - Liaison and Meridian, these have been done within the last 2 year, previous to that it was 4 years ago. They interact with our external stakeholder/suppliers on our behalf and agree a way forward.
- 6b. Please provide the current contract end date and the annual value of the contract awarded to the external organisation (or total value and contract length).

  No contract.
- 7. Does the authority make any checks, either directly or via any 3rd party or 3rd party software to identify sanctioned suppliers, both directly and indirectly owned, within the supplier master file?

  No.
- 7a. If yes, please provide the name of the provider/software and confirm the frequency of checking.

  N/A.

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/">https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/</a>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email <a href="mailto:casework@ico.org.uk">casework@ico.org.uk</a>.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email <a href="mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net">sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net</a>.

## **Information Governance Team**

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the Open Government Licence (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.