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30th May 2025

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[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Medical Equipment Management and Sustainability Practices

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our apologies for the delay.

Home, Community, Hospital.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details								
SECTION 1: Hospital Demographics a. Trust/Hospital Type: i. Acute ii. Mental Health iii. Community iv. Ambulance v. Other (please specify) b. Type of Care: i. Secondary ii. Tertiary iii. Other (please specify)	A – Acute B - Secondary											
SECTION 1: Hospital Demographics 2. Total Number of Beds: Please indicate the total number of inpatient beds in your hospital, including all types (e.g., general, ICU, maternity) if applicable.	CCU: 12, NICU: 10, PHDU: 2, Maternity: 48, General & Acute: 715											
SECTION 1: Hospital Demographics 3. ICU/ITU Bed Count: How many beds are designated for intensive or high-dependency care?	12 Commissioned Adult CCU beds. ITU/HDU split is dependant on demand.											
SECTION 1: Hospital Demographics 4. Annual Admissions: Please provide the total number of patient admissions in the last calendar year. If exact figures are	<table><tr><th>Hospital Site</th><th>Grand Total</th></tr><tr><td>King's Mill Hospital</td><td>101,078</td></tr><tr><td>Newark Hospital</td><td>7,774</td></tr><tr><td>Mansfield Community Hospital</td><td>12</td></tr></table>	Hospital Site	Grand Total	King's Mill Hospital	101,078	Newark Hospital	7,774	Mansfield Community Hospital	12			
Hospital Site	Grand Total											
King's Mill Hospital	101,078											
Newark Hospital	7,774											
Mansfield Community Hospital	12											

unavailable, please provide your best estimate.				
SECTION 2: Procurement and Inventory Management 1. Formal Procurement Policies: Does your hospital have formal policies or guidelines for medical equipment procurement? a. Yes (please provide a copy or summary) b. No	B. No			
SECTION 2: Procurement and Inventory Management 2. Designated Procurement Roles: Is there a designated individual or team responsible for managing the procurement of medical equipment? a. Yes – Individual b. Yes – Team c. No	B. Team			
SECTION 2: Procurement and Inventory Management 3. Inventory Review Frequency: How often is your medical equipment inventory reviewed for excess or unused items? a. Monthly b. Quarterly c. Biannually	Annually			

d. Annually e. Other (please specify)				
SECTION 2: Procurement and Inventory Management 4. Primary Sources for Procurement: What are the primary sources for your medical equipment procurement? Please indicate the proportion sourced from the NHS supply chain versus individual suppliers, and provide any additional details as applicable.	NHS Supply Chain We are unable to determine the proportion of Supply Chain v Direct. Without further metrics such as time frames.			
Section 3 Waste and Disposal 1. Excess/Expired Equipment: What percentage of your medical equipment inventory was classified as excess, unused, or expired in the last 12 months? Please provide a breakdown by equipment type, if available.	Information not held in this format.			
Section 3 Waste and Disposal 2. Disposal Responsibility: Is there a specific role or department responsible for overseeing the disposal of medical equipment? If yes, please provide the role(s) and responsibilities. a. Yes – Individual a. Yes – Department	Reusable Medical Equipment is managed by MEMD/Clinical Engineering Medirest and wards are responsible for consumable.			

a. No				
Section 3 Waste and Disposal 3. Formal Disposal Policy: Does your hospital have a formal policy for the disposal of medical equipment? a. Yes (please provide a copy or summary of any policies) b. No		Yes	Section 21	Section 21 exempts information that is reasonably accessible to you by other means. The information you require is available here: https://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/media/mkafcu1f/q-mdm-medical-device-management-policy-v5-sep23.pdf
Section 3 Waste and Disposal 4. Types of Commonly Disposed Equipment: Please specify the types of medical equipment most commonly disposed of due to expiry or non-use. Include examples and approximate percentages for each type, if possible. a. Surgical instruments b. Diagnostic devices c. Monitoring equipment d. Imaging equipment e. Other (please specify)	Information not held Reusable Medical Equipment is managed so that non-use is limited and they don't 'expire' like consumables. They are maintained and serviced and disposed of when beyond economic repair, no longer supported by manufacturer etc.			
Section 4: Sustainability and Environmental Impact		Yes	Section 21	Section 21 exempts information that is

<p>1. Sustainability Initiatives: Does your hospital have a sustainability initiative for recycling, reuse, or redistribution of excess or unused medical equipment?</p> <p>a. Yes (please provide details)</p> <p>b. No</p>				<p>reasonably accessible to you by other means. The information you require is available here:</p> <p>https://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/media/11897/sfh-green-plan-2021-2026.pdf</p> <p>https://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/media/mkafcu1f/g-mdm-medical-device-management-policy-v5-sep23.pdf</p>
<p>Section 4: Sustainability and Environmental Impact</p> <p>2. Disposal of Excess or Expired Equipment: How does your hospital manage the disposal of excess, expired, or damaged equipment? Please provide a breakdown by disposal method and indicate the approximate amount (in tonnes) used per year for each method. (Note: this information is for the year 2023)</p> <p>a. Recycling</p> <p>b. Donation</p> <p>c. General waste</p> <p>d. Other (please specify)</p>				
<p>SECTION 5: Policies and Compliance</p> <p>1. Compliance with Disposal Guidelines: How does your hospital ensure compliance with national or NHS guidelines on the disposal and management of medical equipment?</p>	<p>For reusable medical devices (not consumables or single use items) we follow MHRA Managing Medical Devices and stay compliant with WEEE regulations where relevant to the device. We have a QMS which we carry out internal audits on and are externally audited too. We can use an auction house in some circumstances. We work with IG</p>			

<p>a. Internal audits b. External audits c. Regular staff training d. Other (please specify)</p>	<p>to ensure any devices with Patient details are appropriately managed and disposed of.</p> <p>There is a Trust waste policy for other items https://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/media/13195/ef-004-waste-policy-v41-jul-23.pdf</p>			
<p>SECTION 5: Policies and Compliance 2. Internal Audits of Equipment Management: Has your hospital conducted internal audits within the last 12 months to assess the management of excess medical equipment?</p> <p>*Please note that "medical equipment" refers to any reusable or single-use devices, tools, or apparatuses used in patient care, diagnosis, treatment, or monitoring. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical Instruments: Reusable or disposable tools used in surgical procedures (e.g., scalpels, forceps, clamps). • Diagnostic Devices: Equipment used in patient examination and 	<p>The Medical Equipment Management Team complete Internal Audits regularly as part of their Quality Management System, these include planned maintenance and equipment Condemnation and disposal (these are regularly undertaken) and could include excess medical equipment.</p>			

<p>diagnosis (e.g., stethoscopes, ultrasound devices, thermometers).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring Equipment: Devices for tracking vital signs and other patient conditions (e.g., blood pressure monitors, ECG machines). • Imaging Equipment: Larger equipment primarily for diagnostic imaging (e.g., X-ray machines, MRI machines, CT scanners). • Other Equipment: Any other reusable or single-use medical tools or devices regularly used within your hospital for patient care and which may have a designated lifecycle. 				
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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: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

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 casework@ico.org.uk.

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 sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

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