

Dear Requestor

RE: Freedom of Information Request

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

Please note, as of 1 April 2020 the following Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), NHS Mansfield & Ashfield CCG, NHS Newark & Sherwood CCG, NHS Nottingham City CCG, NHS Nottingham North & East CCG, NHS Nottingham West CCG and NHS Rushcliffe CCG, merged to become NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG. More information around the new NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG can be found on our website - <https://nottsccg.nhs.uk/about-us/our-ccg/>

In the request you asked:

Can I please make a request under the Freedom of Information Act and I would like to request the following information about the organisation's Local Area Network (LAN) environment. ***You may have received the same request in the past and this information sent has now expired and I require an update as soon as possible.***

Please can you send me the organisation's Local Area Network (LAN) contract, which may include the following:

- Support and Maintenance- e.g. switches, router, software etc
 - Managed- If this includes services than just LAN.
1. Contract Type: Managed or Maintenance
[Managed contract](#)
 2. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
[Nottinghamshire Health Informatics Service](#)
 3. Annual Spend for each supplier: What is the annual average spending on the supplier above? If there is more than one supplier, please split the annual averages spent for each supplier.
[The CCG does not hold this information.](#)
 4. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
515
 5. Number of Sites: The number of sites, where equipment is supported by each contract.
[The CCG has 7 sites.](#)
 6. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?

It is our opinion that the information sought regarding the Brand name of the CCG LAN is exempt under section 31 (1) (a) of the FOI Act. This exempts information if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Release of this information would make the CCG more vulnerable to crime; namely, a malicious attack on the CCGs computer systems.

Section 31: Law Enforcement

Section 31 (1) (a) exempts information if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

Section 31 is a qualified exemption and we are required to conduct a public interest test when applying any qualified exemption. This means that after it has been decided that the exemption is engaged, the public interest in releasing the information must be considered. If the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in withholding it then the exemption does not apply and the information must be released. In the FOI Act there is a presumption that information should be released unless there are compelling reasons to withhold it.

Public Interest Test

The public interest test has now been concluded and the balance of the public interest has been found to fall in favour of withholding information covered by the section 31(1) (a) exemption. Considerations in favour of the release of the information included the principle that there is a public interest in transparency and accountability in disclosing information about our contracts.

However, release of this information would make the CCG more vulnerable to crime; namely, a malicious attack on the CCG computer systems. As such release of this information would be seen to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime by making the CCG computer systems more vulnerable to hacking therefore facilitating the possibility of a criminal offence being carried out. There is an overwhelming public interest in keeping public sector computer systems secure which would be served by non-disclosure. This would outweigh any benefits of release.

Balance Test

It is important to bear in mind that any disclosure under the FOI Act is a disclosure to the public at large and not just to the applicant. It is recognised that there is a general public interest in the CCG being open and transparent. However, it is not believed that this public interest is served in disclosure for damage that would be caused as outlined above.

It has therefore been decided that the balance of the public interest lies clearly in favour of withholding the information on this occasion.

Further guidance on section 31 can be found here:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1207/law-enforcement-foi-section-31.pdf>

6. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
Exemption applied – See response to question 6

7. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.

The contract is an annual rolling contact.

8. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?
This is an annual rolling contract with an anniversary date of 31 March

9. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation be planning to review the contract?
Contracts are reviewed monthly

11. Responsible Officer: Contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

Mike Press – Chief Technical Officer

Mike.press@notts-his.co.uk

If the LAN maintenance is included in-house please include the following information:



1. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
2. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
4. Responsible Officer: Who within the organisation is responsible for LAN please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

Not applicable to questions 1 to 4 above.

If the contract is managed by a 3rd party e.g. Can you please provide me with

1. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
2. Number of Users: Please can you provide me with the number of users this contract covers. Approximate number of users will also be acceptable.
3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
4. Contract Type: Managed, Maintenance, Installation, Software
5. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
6. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
7. Contract Duration: What is the duration of the contract is and can you please also include any extensions this may include.
8. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?
9. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation be planning to review the contract?
10. Responsible Officer: Who within the organisation is responsible for each of these contract(s) please provide me with contact details including name, job title, contact number and email address?

Not applicable to questions 1 to 10 above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group have an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Associate Director of Governance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG, 1 Standard Court, Park Row, Nottingham, NG1 6GN.



If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act, and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group formerly known as NHS Mansfield and Ashfield Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Newark and Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Nottingham West Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group and Nottingham North and East Clinical Commissioning Group. 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/for-the-public/>

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 123 1113 or report a concern: <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer on behalf of *NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group formerly known as NHS Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Nottingham West Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Nottingham North and East Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Mansfield and Ashfield Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Newark and Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Group.*

notts.foi@nhs.net

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 license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via notts.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.

