

Date: **30 September 2019**

Our reference: **FOIRQ5384**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see our response to your requests for information below:

Your Request

Please provide the workforce plans of your successful tender for the provision of laboratory services to support the delivery of the Genomics single national network Programme in your organisation?

Please provide the minutes and notes of the meetings connected to for the provision of laboratory services to support the delivery of the Genomics single national network Programme in your organisation?

Our Request for Clarification

We contacted you to obtain further clarification on the information you have requested. You were asked to specify a time period for the following question:

Please provide the minutes and notes of the meetings connected to for the provision of laboratory services to support the delivery of the Genomics single national network Programme in your organisation?

Your Response to Our Request for Clarification

You responded below:

Please supply information for the time frame 2018/19 and 2019/20.

Our Response

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust (the 'Trust') is a single site, specialist tertiary paediatric trust. Please see our response (in bold) to your following request for information:

Please provide the workforce plans of your successful tender for the provision of laboratory services to support the delivery of the Genomics single national network Programme in your organisation?

The contract has yet to be completed as location and volumes of tests are still being finalised. The workforce plan is therefore incomplete and unavailable for disclosure. Please see note below:**

Please note **Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust is unable to provide the information requested with a view that disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the public authority (the “Trust”) holding it. We have considered the balance of the public interest on the disclosure of information under Section 43 (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The Trust believes that disclosing incomplete information relating to contract data, which has yet to be finalised, would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both the Trust and third party, such as, reducing our ability to negotiate in future tendering processes where disclosure would prejudice the competitive market in procuring future services. The Trust also needs to respect third party commercially sensitive information and strongly believes that disclosure of the information would have a negative impact on the commercial interests of all parties concerned.

The Trust acknowledges that disclosure of information would demonstrate a willingness to be transparent and possible costs sustained by the Trust as a publicly funded body. However, we do believe in maintaining fairness of the tender process as disclosure of information could lead to the public from benefiting in the competitive market place. Your request for information is therefore exempt under Section 43(2) (Prejudice to Commercial Interests) of the FOIA.

Please provide the minutes and notes of the meetings connected to for the provision of laboratory services to support the delivery of the Genomics single national network Programme in your organisation?

Please see the board minutes of 3 April 2019 accessible on the GOSH website. Section 21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means) is an absolute exemption under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. There is no requirement for a public authority (the ‘Trust’) to apply the public interest consideration as Section 21(1) exempts information that is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means via the GOSH website links below:

<https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/about-us/who-we-are/our-organisational-structure/trust-board/trust-board-meetings>

Please note:

The information you have been provided under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is the information held on the date of the Trust receiving your request for information.

We trust the information provided is sufficient and helpful in answering your questions and any issues or concerns. Should you have any queries in relation to this request for information, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team and quote the above reference number on any correspondence relating to this request for information.

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Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information team

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust
Email: foiteam@gosh.nhs.uk

[Enclosed – Your Rights – See next page]

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have received to your request for information, please contact the FOI team and quote your reference number on all correspondence relating to your request.

You can also write to the Head of Quality & Safety at the following address:

Quality & Safety Team
Great Ormond Street Hospital
LONDON
WC1N 3JH

If, however, you remain dissatisfied with your response, you have the right to appeal the Information Commissioner as the final stage of the process. You can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF