



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-539

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 7th November 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) inventory management systems (IMS)

**Q1 I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your Trust.**

**Inventory Management Systems (IMSS) are digital solutions designed to track, manage, and optimise the inventory of clinical supplies within healthcare settings, such as NHS Trusts. An IMS provides real-time visibility over a range of supplies, from consumables to high-cost implants, ensuring that critical items are available when needed while minimising waste and costs. IMS solutions often integrate with other systems to enhance efficiency, support compliance with regulatory standards, and streamline workflows, contributing to improved patient care and operational outcomes.**

**Please may you provide me with answers to the following:**

- 1. Does your Trust use an Inventory Management System (IMS)?**
  - a. If 'Yes,' which company supplies this?**
  - b. If 'No, do you have plans to procure an IMS within the next three years?**

**If the answer to Question 1 was yes, then:**

- 2. Which company supplies the IMS?**
- 3. When was this system implemented?**
- 4. When was the most recent upgrade or change?**
- 5. Did you procure this system independently, through NHS Supply Chain, or through some other route (please specify)?**
- 6. Did the Trust use a different IMS prior to the current one? If so, please specify the previous system(s) and how long were they used for?**
- 7. What are the key differences between the current IMS and any previous IMS in terms of functionality, ease of use, and integration with other Trust systems?**
- 8. Does the current system manage the following:**
  - a. High-cost implants (e.g., cardiac pacemakers, hip and knee replacements, spinal fusion devices)**
  - b. Consumables (e.g., scalpels, blood vials, swabs)**

- c. Human tissue (e.g., corneal tissue, skin grafts, bone grafts, heart valves)
  - d. Other (please specify)
  - 9. Does your IMS integrate with other Trust software (e.g., EPR, procurement platforms)? If yes, which?
  - 10. What primary benefits has the Trust observed with the current IMS (e.g., cost savings, efficiency gains, regulatory compliance)?
  - 11. Do you believe that you are receiving/expect to have received by the contract end good return on investment from this IMS?
  - 12. What are the main challenges or limitations experienced with the system?
  - 13. Does the Trust have plans to upgrade or replace the IMS within the next three years?
  - 14. What new capabilities/improvements/features would be a priority in future IMS procurement (e.g., enhanced traceability, asset or human tissue tracking)?
  - 15. Who is the best person within the Trust to speak to about IMS systems?
- If the answer to Question 1 was no, then:
- 16. Do you have plans to procure an IMS within the next three years?

A1 Refer to the attached spreadsheet

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are

still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,



**Leah Carlisle**  
Head of Data, Security & Protection and Health Records  
Data Protection Officer