



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-597

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 26th November 2024 sent to the PALs team requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Asbestos

**Q1 I am sending this FOI as asbestos manager within a single NHS Trust. I am interested in understanding the status and challenges of asbestos management across the NHS more broadly. I was recently invited to a roundtable event with Sir Stephen Timms who is the Government Minister for Social Security & Disability to discuss the future of asbestos management. I would appreciate any information you are able to share to be able to understand the sector beyond my own Trust more accurately.**

**If you would be interested in making contact in terms of forming a network / support group regarding asbestos management in the NHS then please feel free to contact me outside of this request -**

- 1. How many buildings / blocks are you responsible for owning / managing from a maintenance perspective? (Include any under PFI contracts)**
- 2. How many of these buildings / blocks contain asbestos?**
- 3. How many Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs) do you have? If you are uncertain, please provide an estimate.**
- 4. What format of asbestos register do you have? (e.g. paper based, Excel, internal database, externally digital, asbestos consultant system, survey reports etc.)**
- 5. Does your Trust have a dedicated person(s) to manage asbestos? If so how many roles.**
- 6. What is the job title of the person (or persons) who are responsible for managing asbestos day to day (not the Dutyholder)?**
- 7. Does this person / role solely cover asbestos or do they have other responsibilities?**

8. What asbestos / health & safety qualifications do those persons involved in the management of asbestos hold? (e.g. Asbestos Awareness, NEBOSH, CoCA, P401, P402, P403, P404, P405, P406, P407, S301, W504 etc.)
9. Does your Trust have external support for asbestos management? (Not including undertaking removal/ abatement, surveys, sampling, air monitoring, training etc.)
10. Does your Trust employ an Independent Assessor / Authorised Person / Authorising Engineer for asbestos?
11. Does your Trust undertake external audits of asbestos management?
12. Do you undertake any of the following asbestos activities in-house – sampling, re-inspections, removal / abatement, training?
13. Do you employ asbestos consultants?
14. Do you require asbestos consultants to be UKAS accredited?
15. If using consultants, what services do you get them to undertake? (e.g. management / refurbishment / demolition surveys, air monitoring & 4SC, specification writing, training etc.)
16. If using consultants, how do you procure their services? (e.g. per job, approved list, national framework, internal framework, annual contract etc.)
17. Within the last 3 years have you had issues with the standard or work undertaken by asbestos consultants?
18. Do you employ Licensed Asbestos Removal Contractors (LARCs)?
19. Do you employ Non-Licensed Asbestos Contractors?
20. If using contractors, how do you procure their services? (e.g. per job, approved list, national framework, internal framework, annual contract etc.)
21. Within the last 3 years have you had issues with the standard or work undertaken by asbestos removal contractors?

A1 Please see below.

1. How many buildings / blocks are you responsible for owning / managing from a maintenance perspective? (Include any under PFI contracts)	55 Buildings which includes the PFI Hospital Building
2. How many of these buildings / blocks contain asbestos?	13 Building including external service ducts.
3. How many Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs) do you have? If you are uncertain, please provide an estimate.	230
4. What format of asbestos register do you have? (e.g. paper based, Excel, internal database, externally digital, asbestos consultant system, survey reports etc.)	Asbestos consultant system, internal
5. Does your Trust have a dedicated person(s) to manage asbestos? If so how many roles.	Yes, generally one person is lead and there are another 3 who could deputise.
6. What is the job title of the person (or persons) who are responsible for managing asbestos day to day (not the Dutyholder)?	Senior Estates Manager and Building Maintenance Manager, Engineering Maintenance Manager
7. Does this person / role solely cover asbestos or do they have other responsibilities?	This post has other responsibilities.

8. What asbestos / health & safety qualifications do those persons involved in the management of asbestos hold? (e.g. Asbestos Awareness, NEBOSH, CoCA, P401, P402, P403, P404, P405, P406, P407, S301, W504 etc.)	Asbestos Awareness, Asbestos Non-Licensed Working, P405, P402, NEBOSH Certificate
9. Does your Trust have external support for asbestos management? (Not including undertaking removal/ abatement, surveys, sampling, air monitoring, training etc.)	Yes, we have an asbestos consultant and an independent advisor.
10. Does your Trust employ an Independent Assessor / Authorised Person / Authorising Engineer for asbestos?	Yes, we employ an Independent Advisor
11. Does your Trust undertake external audits of asbestos management?	Yes, carried out by the Independent Advisor
12. Do you undertake any of the following asbestos activities in-house – sampling, re-inspections, removal / abatement, training?	No. All are carried out by consultant or licensed contractor.
13. Do you employ asbestos consultants?	Yes
14. Do you require asbestos consultants to be UKAS accredited?	Yes
15. If using consultants, what services do you get them to undertake? (e.g. management / refurbishment / demolition surveys, air monitoring & 4SC, specification writing, training etc.)	All of the services listed in the question and also advise on management plan and policies.
16. If using consultants, how do you procure their services? (e.g. per job, approved list, national framework, internal framework, annual contract etc.)	Per scheme and annual contract.
17. Within the last 3 years have you had issues with the standard or work undertaken by asbestos consultants?	No
18. Do you employ Licensed Asbestos Removal Contractors (LARCs)?	Yes
19. Do you employ Non-Licensed Asbestos Contractors?	Yes
20. If using contractors, how do you procure their services? (e.g. per job, approved list, national framework, internal framework, annual contract etc.)	Term service contractors have non-licensed training for a very narrow window of works, notifiable NLW would be carried out by a Licensed Asbestos Removal Contractor.
21. Within the last 3 years have you had issues with the standard or work undertaken by asbestos removal contractors?	No

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

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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