Dear

Freedom of Information Request – DGS 182

Thank you for your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on 22 January 2019. The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

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
NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group’s (CCG) Local Area Network (LAN) contract is managed.

2. Existing Supplier: Who is the current supplier?
North East London Commissioning Support Unit.

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 spend for each supplier.

The CCG’s annual average spending on the above supplier is £523,030.

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.

The approximate number of users this contract covers is 90.
5. Number of Sites: The number of sites, where equipment is supported by each contract.

The number of sites where equipment is supported by the contract is 3.

6. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?

The CCG considers this information exempt under Section 36(2) (c) (Effective conduct of public affairs). In order to use this exemption, the organisation’s qualified person must advise whether they believe disclosure of the information would prejudice the CCG’s ability to effectively conduct its public affairs. Confirmation has therefore been received from the CCG’s Managing Director that releasing this information could prejudice the CCG’s ability to carry out its public functions, as disclosing brand information could allow someone to check for known vulnerabilities against the stated brand, and if vulnerability is found, it could be used to gain illicit access to the CCG’s network/data.

Section 36(2) (c) is a qualified exemption which means that it is also subject to a public interest test. This means that not only does the information have to prejudice one of the purposes listed, but before the information can be withheld, the public interest in preventing that prejudice must outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

**Public Interest Test**

Reasons to disclose the requested information

- The need for public authorities to be open, transparent and accountable in their dealings
- Reasons to withhold the requested information
- Disclosure of the information could prevent the CCG from providing its public services if the information was used to take advantage of a known vulnerability, which would not be in the public’s interest
- If CCG information were to be accessed inappropriately, confidential information may be lost/inappropriately shared, preventing the CCG from carrying out its day to day functions
- No significant interest in this particular area has been noticed to evidence that the public are interested in obtaining this information, and the remainder of the requested information will be provided and placed on the CCG’s disclosure log
- This information would significantly add to information which is already available to the public domain, when considering that FOI responses are available to the public in general

**Decision**

The CCG recognises that there is a public interest in the disclosure of information which facilitates the accountability and transparency of public bodies for decisions taken by them. However, there is also a public interest in the CCG being able to carry out its day to day functions for the public, without the risk of cyber-attacks that are ever increasing in the present day.

Having undertaken the balancing exercise, the CCG have concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the
requested information having regard to the effect that the disclosure of the information would not be in the public interest. We consider given that the definition of ‘public’ under the Act is considered to be the public at large, rather than just the individual applicant or a small group of people and that ‘public interest’ is not necessarily the same as what interests the public, it is considered that to release this sensitive information into the public domain is likely to result in a prejudice to the CCG carrying out its public affairs effectively, which is not outweighed by the wider public interest for disclosure.

7. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.

Managed service to support CCG’s IT environment across multiple locations.

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

5 years.

9. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?

May 2022.

10. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?

Early 2022.

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

Dan Campbell Head of IM&T
Email Dan.campbell@nhs.net

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?

Please refer to question 6 above.

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.

The approximate number of users this contract covers is 90.

3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.

The number of sites is 3.
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?

Dan Campbell, Head of IM&T
Email dan.campbell@nhs.net

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?
North East London Commissioning Support Unit.

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.
The approximate number of users this contract covers is 90.

3. Number of Sites: Estimated/Actual number of sites the LAN covers.
The number of sites where equipment is supported by the contract is 3.

4. Contract Type: Managed, Maintenance, Installation, Software
The contract is managed.

5. Hardware Brand: What is the hardware brand of the LAN equipment?
Please refer to question 6 in section 1 above.

6. Contract Description: Please provide me with a brief description of the overall contract.
The contract is to manage a service to support CCG’s IT environment across multiple locations.

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

8. Contract Expiry Date: When does the contract expire?
May 2022

9. Contract Review Date: When will the organisation is planning to review the contract?
Early 2022

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?
Dan Campbell, Head of IM& T
Email dan.campbell@nhs.net

We hope that this has dealt with your request for information however, should you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to request that we conduct an internal review of your request. If you would like us to conduct such a review please contact us within two months of this letter using the contact details below:

E-mail: swccg.northkent.foi@nhs.net

Post: FOI, NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group, 2nd Floor, Gravesham Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Your request for an internal review will then be processed in accordance with our Freedom of Information Policy, a copy of which can be found on our website:

www.dartfordgraveshamswanleyccg.nhs.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner provides full and detailed guidance on the Freedom of Information Act, and on when and how to complain.

Please find below the link to their website page and their helpline number.
https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/
Helpline number: 0303 123 1113

In line with the Information Commissioner’s directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. An anonymised version of our response will therefore be posted on our website.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.