

Ref no: 045170720
From: Press
Date: 17/07/20
Subject: Personal Protective Equipment for staff cleaning your hospital.

REQUEST & RESPONSE

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act concerning Personal Protective Equipment for staff cleaning your hospital.

Q1: Is your cleaning managed in-house or outsourced to a private contractor?

Response to Q1 - At St Helens and Whiston Hospitals the Facilities Management Services are provided under the Trusts PFI (private finance initiative) contract with NewHospitals, which also provides the hospital buildings and infrastructure.

(If in-house, please respond to questions 2-4, if outsourced; please respond to questions 5-7)

Q2: What PPE do you provide to cleaners?

Q3: What training do you provide to cleaners on doffing and donning PPE?

Q4: Do you collect data on PPE's failure to protect cleaners? Is this data broken down by sex and ethnicity of the cleaners? Can you provide this data?

Q5: To whom is your cleaning outsourced?

Response to Q5 - The Soft FM services are sub-contracted to Medirest (part of the Compass Group), this includes cleaning.

Q6: Can you provide a copy of the contract you have with them?

Response to Q6 –

The Trust considers your request to be exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 43.2 of the Freedom of Information Act as to release this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust. The trust has applied the public interest test to this request and feels that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Q7: Has this contract been amended in any way that affects the provision of PPE or training in the use of PPE for hospital cleaners since February 1, 2020? If so, how?

Response to Q7 - The contract has not needed to be amended in any way that affects the provision of PPE or training in the use of PPE for the cleaning staff. The Trust has worked with our PFI partners to ensure that all staff working at the Trust have had access to the recommended PPE and training in the use of PPE throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.