

30 June 2017

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**By email**

Dear [REDACTED]

**Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)**

I refer to your email of **2 June 2017** in which you requested information under the FOI Act from NHS Improvement. Since 1 April 2016, Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority (“NHS TDA”) are operating as an integrated organisation known as NHS Improvement. For the purposes of this decision, NHS Improvement means Monitor and the NHS TDA.

**Your request**

You made the following request:

- 1) Have all the below items come on stream through NHS Supply Chain? If not please specify which have not yet come on stream and why.
  - Nitrile exam gloves (6 Newton)
  - Barrier cream and barrier film
  - Medical pulp urinals
  - General purpose patient dry wipes
  - Medical pulp bowls
  - Blunt filter needle
  - Medical pulp bedpans
  - 10ml IV Luer Slip syringes
  - Vinyl examination gloves : non-pigmented and pigmented
  - Blunt fill needle
  - Medical pulp trays
  - Non-woven island dressings
  
- 2) Have any further items been added to this list? If so please specify which items.

- 3) How much money is paid to NHS Supply Chain for purchase of all items which are currently on stream?
- 4) Which organisation(s) is responsible for paying this money to NHS Supply Chain?
- 5) Please send the full list of suppliers broken down per item and the amounts of money paid to each for the items.
- 6) Please send the full list of non-compliant trusts as of 02/06/17, including those who were non-compliant by 01/05/17 and onwards but are compliant as of 02/06/17.
- 7) Please define what is meant by a “non-compliant trust”
- 8) What action is taken by NHS Improvement against non-compliant trusts?

### **Decision**

NHS Improvement holds some of the information that you have requested and has decided to release all of the information that it holds.

### **Questions 1 and 2**

The requested information can be found on the Nationally Contracted Products programme website: <https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/NCP>

### **Questions 3 and 4**

The requested information can be found at the following web pages:

[https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/product-news/new-savings-opportunities/~-/media/Files/NCP/ncp\\_postalcatel](https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/product-news/new-savings-opportunities/~-/media/Files/NCP/ncp_postalcatel)

<https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/product-news/new-savings-opportunities/~-/media/Files/NCP/0189%20NCP%20post%20alcatel%20needles>

NHS Supply Chain is responsible for purchasing the standard products on behalf of the whole NHS. Individual providers must then purchase these standard products through NHS Supply Chain. The process is the same as providers' purchasing their products via the NHS Supply Chain catalogue.

### **Question 5**

The requested information can be found on the Nationally Contracted Products programme website: <https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/NCP>

### **Question 6**

Currently, all providers have provided NHS Improvement with either written or verbal agreement to commit to the programme and purchase centrally. NHS Improvement will be

tracking monthly purchasing of NCP products through NHS Supply Chain and the Purchase Price Benchmarking and Index tool.

#### Question 7

A non-compliant trust is one where the Head of Procurement (or more senior official) has not agreed to commit to the programme and purchase centrally, and subsequently has not committed volumes or ordered the centrally purchased product.

#### Question 8

If a trust is found to be non-compliant, the Chief Executive will be alerted and action by the trust must be taken.

#### **Review rights**

If you consider that your request for information has not been properly handled or if you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you can try to resolve this informally with the person who dealt with your request. If you remain dissatisfied, you may seek an internal review within NHS Improvement of the issue or the decision. A senior member of NHS Improvement's staff, who has not previously been involved with your request, will undertake that review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of any internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the FOI Act.

A request for an internal review should be submitted in writing to FOI Request Reviews, NHS Improvement, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG or by email to [nhsi.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nhsi.foi@nhs.net).

#### **Publication**

Please note that this letter will shortly be published on our website. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the FOI Act is disclosed to the public at large. We will, of course, remove your personal information (e.g. your name and contact details) from the version of the letter published on our website to protect your personal information from general disclosure.

Yours sincerely,

**NHS Improvement**