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NG2 4LA

[REDACTED]
12th December 2023

Email: FOI@supplychain.nhs.uk
www.supplychain.nhs.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

REF: SCCL-FOI-2023/24-097

I am writing further to your e-mail of 24th November 2023 where you requested the below information:

Please note that if data for all Trusts is not available, the data via NHS Supply Chain will give an indication of the information I wish to understand:

1. What are the top 10 disposable/single use products lines used across the NHS in a year (e.g. 2022-23), excluding pharmaceuticals?
 - a. How much did the NHS spend on each of these lines?
 - b. How many of these lines have an 'eco' alternative available on NHS Supply Chain?
2. What is the calculation of tons of CO2 emitted at end of life (e.g. incineration) by each of the product lines?
3. Which countries are these products manufactured in or can you list major country of origin of each?
4. Approximately how many sharps bins/clinical hazardous waste bins were used across the NHS in 2022-23?
 - a. Can you separate this total by sizes and types/colours?
 - b. How many were made from recycled plastic, virgin plastic, or other materials? If numbers aren't available, percentage split would be interesting.
 - c. How many were reused?
 - d. How many were incinerated?
 - e. What are the main countries of manufacture?
5. How many pairs of gloves were used across the NHS in 2022-23?
 - a. Which countries were the majority made in?
 - b. What percentage or how many of these gloves were biodegradable?
6. How many plastic aprons were used across the NHS in 2022-23?
 - a. Which country were they made in?
 - b. What percentage or how many of these aprons were recycled?
7. How many and what type/sizes of Emesis bags are purchased by the NHS each year?
8. Which NHS Trusts have their own incinerator for hazardous waste?
9. Is any clinical waste sent to landfill? If so, what and how much, and is it treated beforehand?

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL confirms that we hold some of this information.

Following a review of the information being requested we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 under Section 12 the FOI Act. The relevant Regulations which define the appropriate limit for section 12 purposes are The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with your request as the £450 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 18 hours of work per request.

We invite you to refine your request so that it is more likely to fall under the cost limit and will be considered again.

Please note that if you simply break your request down into a series of similar smaller requests, we might still decline to answer it if the total cost exceeds £450.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the postal or e-mail addresses above, quoting the reference number above. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Supply Chain Coordination Limited
Management Function of NHS Supply Chain