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16th August 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2024/25-071

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL are able to provide a response in blue below:

- 1) how many items bought during the pandemic (in total) have been deemed "not fit for use" / "do not supply" - I'm aware that previously, in an answer dated 15 September 2021 to a written question (UIN HL2327) Lord Bethell said that, as of 10 June, 1.9 billion items of personal protective equipment stock were in the 'do not supply' category, with an estimated value of £2.8 billion.

Following on from that, there have been reports of an increase in this figure, to £4 billion of PPE bought during the first year of the pandemic listed as unusable:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/127/public-accounts-committee/news/171306/4-billion-of-unusable-ppe-bought-in-first-year-of-pandemic-will-be-burnt-to-generate-power/>

So could the department tell me how much PPE in total could not be used in an NHS setting that was bought during 2020 and 2021 (or whenever the department records pandemic-era PPE supply as having tapered off, this could be in 2022, happy to take advisement here if the June 2022 update is no longer the most up-to-date)

SCCL does hold information relevant to your request, however, as the information is in the public domain, we will, under section 21 of the FOIA (information accessible to the applicant by other means), refer you to the published source which can be found here:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/42056/documents/209249/default/>

Once the figure of waste is established from a total list of items awarded by the department, I'd like a list of those contracts in respect of those £4 billion worth of items. If this cannot be provided within the cost threshold, please explain why not and provide the report, dataset or other information that was used to inform Lord Bethell's answer, and then the departments updated information about the number of items unusable / cost"

Supply Chain Coordination Limited

I'm aware that previously, a spreadsheet has been provided for a similar response to this request by DHSC, which the department can use to advise this information please, as I'm looking for a list of the companies, cost, and wasted amount of PPE as outlined in the prior request response, which I believe sets precedent here. entitled - HAVENDHAND IR-1369447, and which relates to the FOI request number IR-1369447.

Essentially what I'm asking for is an updated list of these companies in the same vein as that FOI response.

[SCCL does not hold this information.](#)

We hope that this response addresses your request. However, 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 handling of your information request will be reassessed by a member of SCCL staff who was 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.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the FOI team.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Supply Chain Coordination Limited
Management Function of NHS Supply Chain