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6 December 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2021-083

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office, requesting information on product supplies to NHS bodies (logistics).

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we are able to provide a reply to your request.

Supply Chain Coordination Limited (SCCL) confirms it does hold information as set out below.

1. Does NHS have a centralized shipping and logistics operation that distributes products as needed or does each hospital/clinic place orders through regional authorities?

Yes, NHS Supply Chain: Logistics service manages the storage and delivery of thousands of products vital to the everyday running of trusts, hospitals, and healthcare organisations.

Orders can be placed via the NHS Supply Chain online catalogue ordering system, Electronic Data Capture (eDC) or Electronic Data Capture Gold (eDC Gold), Electronic file transfer via NHS.net or Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

More information on the services NHS Supply Chain provides can be found in [customer guide](#).

2. Does NHS provide storage of surplus product or do distributors?

NHS Supply Chain products are stocked in our national and regional distribution centres across England and hold between 6-8 weeks' worth of available stock on most products.

3. Is quality control upon delivery the responsibility of NHS, local health authorities or distributor?

NHS Supply Chain Clinical and Product Assurance (CaPA) team play a key role in ensuring all products supplied are safe and reflect the needs and preferences of all our NHS partners.

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

Supply Chain Coordination Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.
Registered number: 10881715.
Registered office: Skipton House, 80 London Road, London SE1 6LH

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