Supply Chain
Coordination Limited

[redacted]

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16 April 2025

Dear [redacted]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2025/26-008

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:

- I am writing to request information on the following press release: Government acts to eradicate modern slavery from NHS. The DHSC said that I should contact you, rather than the department, for that information.
  That press release states: "More than 21% of NHS suppliers were recently found to be at 'high risk' of involving modern slavery in their supply chains. Surgical instruments, gloves, gowns, uniforms and face masks were identified as the 5 highest-risk products."

1. Please provide me with a list of NHS suppliers, broken down by their risk of involving modern slavery in their supply chains and a description of what each supplier provides the NHS. Please break this data down by 'high risk' to (e.g.) 'no risk', defining each range (i.e., what it means for a supplier to be at 'high risk' of involving modern slavery in their supply chains; 'medium risk'; 'low risk', etc.).
   SCCL does not hold a record that lists suppliers, broken down by their risk of involving modern slavery in their supply chains and a description of what each supplier provides the NHS. To meet your request would require the production of a new record from a variety of data sources. Public organisations are not obliged to create new data to answer requests, which is what would have to be done on this occasion if we were to answer your request as it is framed. Therefore, the record you request is not held.

2. If data is not available in that format, please supply me with all data relevant to the conclusion that 21% of NHS suppliers were found to be at high risk of involving modern slavery in their supply chains and that 'surgical instruments, gloves, gowns, uniforms and face masks' are 'the 5 highest-risk products'.
   We believe that the information you have requested is already reasonably accessible to you. It can be found here.
   Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act exempts SCCL from having to provide you with this information, because it is already reasonably accessible. If you have any difficulties in accessing this information at the source which I have indicated, please contact me again.

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