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1 December 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: SCCL-FOI-2025/26-121**

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information:

- I would like to request summary information on electrode and related defibrillation products supplied through NHS Supply Chain (SCCL) for the last three completed financial years: • FY 2022/23 • FY 2023/24 • FY 2024/25 If data for FY 2025/26 year-to-date is readily available, please include it as a separate column.  
Scope of products
- Adult ECG electrodes  
Diagnostic ECG electrodes (tab or stud types, solid gel / wet gel / foam / cloth backing)  
Monitoring ECG electrodes (pre-gelled / wet gel / solid gel / foam / cloth / tape backing)  
Stress-test or Holter electrodes (repositionable or high-adhesion types)  
Resting ECG “dots” (standard disposable types used for short-term monitoring)
- Paediatric / Neonatal ECG electrodes  
Neonatal monitoring electrodes (hydrogel or solid gel, gentle adhesive)  
Paediatric ECG electrodes (smaller contact area, pre-gelled or solid gel)  
Neonatal tab electrodes (non-adhesive or low-tack)
- Pre-wired ECG electrodes  
Adult and paediatric pre-wired electrodes (lead-wire integrated, single-use, pre-gelled or solid gel)  
Compatible lead-wire sets if classified within same product category
- D. Defibrillation and CPR pads / electrodes  
Adult defibrillation pads (self-adhesive, pre-gelled, single-use)  
Paediatric defibrillation pads (self-adhesive, pre-gelled, single-use)  
Manual defibrillator and AED replacement pads  
Training defibrillation pads (if held under same product lot)  
CPR electrodes/pads used for defibrillation or resuscitation monitoring (adult and paediatric)  
External defibrillator paddles/spoons (reusable or disposable)  
Internal defibrillator paddles/spoons (used during open-chest procedures, if recorded under same or linked category)
- Data requested - For each of the four main categories (A–D) and each financial year:

1. National totals (UK-wide)
  - Units purchased (quantity)
  - Net spend (£ excluding VAT)
  - Average unit price (if held)
  - Top 5 suppliers/vendors by spend for each category
2. Supplier / vendor breakdown (aggregated)
  - Supplier name
  - Total units and total spend (all trusts combined) per year
3. Per-trust summary (aggregated)
  - NHS Trust / Organisation name (ODS code if available)
  - Total electrode spend per year
  - Total electrode units per year (if readily extractable)

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 the attached spreadsheet. The framework in question has been called off by SCCL, which is the legal entity of NHS Supply Chain, and therefore the only customer.

SCCL are unable to provide the sales data broken down by supplier and the top 5 suppliers in the correct order as it is exempt from disclosure under section 43(2) (Commercial Interests) of the FOI Act 2000. This provides that information can be withheld where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

It is acknowledged that the statutory exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA requires SCCL to consider the public interest for and against disclosure of the requested information. SCCL has considered the public interest arguments for and against disclosure of information to which the exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA applies.

In conclusion, notwithstanding the strong public interest in public authorities ensuring accountability and transparency, the following public interest factors apply in the case of the requested information covered by section 43 of the FOIA:

1. SCCL, contracting NHS Trusts and third-party contracting bodies have legitimate commercial interests in ensuring that the terms by which they are able to operate (including the manner in which they contract) are optimal. Supplier pricing is derived either under tender conditions or subsequent price competitions (mini-competitions, e-auctions etc.) and conducted under controlled, confidential processes.
2. To release a copy of this data would:
  - a. damage commercial relations between the Trust and/or SCCL and its suppliers.
  - b. adversely impact on SCCL's ability to manage its relationship with both the relevant external suppliers and NHS Trusts.
  - c. adversely impact on SCCL/NHS Supply Chain's ability to achieve best value solutions with its suppliers, who may be constrained in offering those solutions should they be at risk of disclosure under FOIA.

It is not in the public interest to prejudice any of SCCL/NHS Supply Chain, relevant NHS Trusts and relevant supplier commercial interests at the expense of disclosure which is likely to damage commercial relations and adversely impact on our ability to manage our relationships and any future tenders.

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**