[redacted]

Supply Chain Coordination Limited

[redacted]

Equinox House
City Link
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG2 4LA

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

13 May 2026

Dear [redacted]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2026/27-003

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office.

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 below:

- Is Kim Fell associated with your work?

The information you have requested constitutes personal data of a third party. We are unable to confirm or deny whether we hold this information, or to disclose it, as to do so would breach the data protection principles under the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018.

- Is it still theoretically possible to have a satellite unit - of one or two linacs - run by a Cancer Centre?

In the UK, particularly in England, the decision to open a radiotherapy satellite site is a collaborative process heavily guided by NHS England Specialised Commissioning, which holds the overall responsibility for commissioning radiotherapy services.

However, the final determination is generally driven by a partnership involving several key stakeholders:

- *NHS England Specialised Commissioning: As the primary commissioner, they are responsible for national service standards, funding, and the approval of new treatment locations to ensure equitable access.*
- *Radiotherapy Operational Delivery Networks (ODNs): These networks are responsible for coordinating the development of services at scale and identifying the need for new locations. They oversee the strategic planning, capacity, and demand modelling to determine where a satellite site is needed.*
- *Cancer Alliances and Integrated Care Boards (ICBs): These bodies are involved in assessing regional needs, ensuring the site fits into wider cancer pathways, and often leading public consultations.*
- *Provider NHS Trusts (Main and Hosting): An existing "hub" hospital (specialist centre) must develop a business case for a satellite unit, ensuring clinical governance and staff alignment with the main site.*

Decision Process Drivers:

- ***Needs Assessment:*** *Decisions are based on patient travel times (e.g., aiming for 45 minutes or less to a site), patient flows, and demand.*
- ***Clinical Safety****: The satellite site must demonstrate that it can meet strict clinical governance and safety standards, often ensuring the site is attached to an existing acute hospital.*
- ***Business Case Approval:*** *A robust business case must be submitted, detailing capacity, equipment, and staff roles (radiographers, physicists, oncologists).*

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