Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.18.507
Date Received: 12 April 2018

*Note to Applicant: As of 1 April 2017, North Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (NEP) and South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (SEPT) merged to form one new organisation known as Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT).

Information Requested:

Under the Freedom of Information act, could you please kindly provide the following information?

1. The name, job title and contact email of the individual who manages the contracts for your gas, electricity, and water
   The Trust is unable to provide all of the information you have requested. This is because the Trust considers the staff names to be personal information which is exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Act.
   In addition Trust policy states that personal information will only be given for those staff with public facing roles:
   
   • Public Interest Roles - those staff occupying positions of seniority with public profiles and responsibilities for major (policy) decisions and expenditure of public funds.
     (Freedom of Information Policy & Procedure: Section 3.3)
   
   However, the Trust can confirm that the job title for the above is Sustainability Manager.

2. The name, job title and contact email of the individual who manages the budgets for your gas, electricity, and water contracts
   Please see response to Q1

3. The value of your typical annual gas, electricity, and water expenditure
   The Trust believes that this information is publicly available from ERIC (http://hefs.hscic.gov.uk/) and is therefore applying Section 21 exemption of the Act (Information accessible to applicant by other means).

4. The number of electricity, gas, and water meters in your estate
   70 Electricity
   58 Gas
   70 Water

5. The number of properties in your building portfolio
   The Trust has approximately 200 sites from which we provide healthcare depending on how they are defined, however they are not all our own buildings. Metering and accounts are held by the landlord in many properties, therefore may we respectfully suggest you re-direct this query to NHS Property Services for the sites they manage.
Applied Exemption:

Section 40: Personal information

(1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.

(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—

(a) it constitutes personal data which do not fall within subsection (1), and

(b) either the first or the second condition below is satisfied.

(3) The first condition is—

(a) in a case where the information falls within any of paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of “data” in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene—

(i) any of the data protection principles, or

(ii) section 10 of that Act (right to prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress), and

(b) in any other case, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene any of the data protection principles if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (which relate to manual data held by public authorities) were disregarded.

(4) The second condition is that by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 1998 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(c) of that Act (data subject’s right of access to personal data).

(5) The duty to confirm or deny—

(a) does not arise in relation to information which is (or if it were held by the public authority would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1), and

(b) does not arise in relation to other information if or to the extent that either—

(i) the giving to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the data protection principles or section 10 of the Data Protection Act 1998 or would do so if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of that Act were disregarded, or

(ii) by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 1998 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(a) of that Act (data subject’s right to be informed whether personal data being processed).
(6) In determining for the purposes of this section whether anything done before 24th October 2007 would contravene any of the data protection principles, the exemptions in Part III of Schedule 8 to the Data Protection Act 1998 shall be disregarded.

(7) In this section— “the data protection principles” means the principles set out in Part I of Schedule 1 to the Data Protection Act 1998, as read subject to Part II of that Schedule and section 27(1) of that Act;

- “data subject” has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act;
- “personal data” has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act.

Section 21: Information accessible to applicant by other means

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—

(a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and

(b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority’s publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.