

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.24.3600
Date Received: 25th June 2024

Information Requested:

(Robotic Process Automation (RPA) is software which can automate manual, computer-based tasks by using virtual workers which mimic the way humans interact with applications on a computer)

Question	Answer Type / Notes
1. Do you currently use RPA?	Yes
If No, are you planning to?	
If Yes, please answer all following questions	
2. What solution(s) do you use?	Microsoft Power Automate
3. Main RPA Contact within the Organisation	Adam Whiting, Deputy Director of Digital & Business Intelligence (Deputy CIO)
4. Are Automations Developed in-house or via external provider, if so whom.	External partner - Digpacks
5. Please Provide the following details for all automations you have (Live, being developed or decommissioned)	Exemption Section 31 Law enforcement applied
Department	
Title	
6. Brief Description	Exemption Section 31 Law enforcement applied
7. Are you intending to expand the use of RPA in future, if so into which areas?	Exemption Section 31 Law enforcement applied
8. Have you already shared automations with another trust?	No, although the offer has been made openly to other Trusts if there is interest
If yes, which organisations	
9. Are you happy for this to be shared with other NHS Trusts on request (information will not be shared outside the NHS)	Yes

31 Law enforcement.

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—

- (a) the prevention or detection of crime,
- (b) the apprehension or prosecution of offenders,
- (c) the administration of justice,
- (d) the assessment or collection of any tax or duty or of any imposition of a similar nature,
- (e) the operation of the immigration controls,
- (f) the maintenance of security and good order in prisons or in other institutions where persons are lawfully detained,
- (g) the exercise by any public authority of its functions for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2),
- (h) any civil proceedings which are brought by or on behalf of a public authority and arise out of an investigation conducted, for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2), by or on behalf of the authority by virtue of Her Majesty's prerogative or by virtue of powers conferred by or under an enactment, or
- (i) any inquiry held under the [\[F1\]Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) to the extent that the inquiry arises out of an investigation conducted, for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2), by or on behalf of the authority by virtue of Her Majesty's prerogative or by virtue of powers conferred by or under an enactment.

(2) The purposes referred to in subsection (1)(g) to (i) are—

- (a) the purpose of ascertaining whether any person has failed to comply with the law,
- (b) the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is responsible for any conduct which is improper,
- (c) the purpose of ascertaining whether circumstances which would justify regulatory action in pursuance of any enactment exist or may arise,
- (d) the purpose of ascertaining a person's fitness or competence in relation to the management of bodies corporate or in relation to any profession or other activity which he is, or seeks to become, authorised to carry on,
- (e) the purpose of ascertaining the cause of an accident,
- (f) the purpose of protecting charities against misconduct or mismanagement (whether by trustees or other persons) in their administration,
- (g) the purpose of protecting the property of charities from loss or misapplication,
- (h) the purpose of recovering the property of charities,
- (i) the purpose of securing the health, safety and welfare of persons at work, and
- (j) the purpose of protecting persons other than persons at work against risk to health or safety arising out of or in connection with the actions of persons at work.

(3) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, prejudice any of the matters mentioned in subsection (1).

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link
<https://eput.nhs.uk>