

Reference Number: FOI/2019/223
From: Private Individual
Date: 03 June 2019
Subject: Suppliers & equipment

Q1 What is the process by which suppliers of medical devices get in touch with the trust, how does the trust make decisions on which suppliers to choose and who is responsible for making such decisions?

A1 Medical device suppliers usually contact the Trust via telephone calls, e-mail or in person via Company Representatives.

Suppliers may be chosen as the result of a tender or quotations process or due to the fact that they have products that are available through NHS Supply Chain or other compliant public sector framework contracts.

Subject matter experts and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. clinical users, finance and procurement) are responsible for selecting appropriate medical device suppliers.

Q2 What happens to the NHS equipment (including medical devices, vehicles, technology and office equipment) that becomes redundant, is not cost effective for repair or is in surplus and which department of the trust is responsible for making such decisions?

A2 IT/Digital Systems - currently the Trust is reviewing its options for disposing of IT equipment to ensure that, wherever possible, items could be repurposed before being destroyed. The procurement department will be undertaking this review through the national frameworks available to us.

Medical Engineering - Medical equipment (devices) go through an asset disposal process whereby the Departmental Manager, the Medical Engineering Manager and the Chief Finance Officer judge the device on an individual basis. If it that becomes redundant and is still of use we pass it onto a 3rd party for resale. If not cost effective for repair we scrap it within WEEE guidance. In surplus is the same answer as redundant above. All disposals of above are managed by Medical Engineering.

Estates and Facilities - Furniture and fittings are recycled where possible by using the Warp system and local companies to up cycle or breakdown to recycle. Electrical equipment deemed unsafe (fails PAT or in poor condition) are placed into the WEEE container for safe disposal.

Q3 Does the trust have a vision or strategy in place to make the NHS “greener”?

A3 We have a Sustainability strategy with includes Green/environment/waste/carbon foot print etc.