

Our Ref: NG/RM/25221  
Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Nicola Griffiths  
Deputy Director of Governance  
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust  
Lawton House  
Bellringer Road  
Trentham  
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

### **Requested information:**

I am writing to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, relating to the Accounts Payable team capabilities and protections against fraud, errors, duplicates and compliance.

1. Does the authority share accounts payable or procurement functions with another authority or shared service function? If yes, who?
  - **Accounts payable- NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit.**
  - **Procurement- University Hospital North Midlands and Black Country Procurement Group.**
2. Which ERP system is used by the authority (e.g. Oracle, SAP, Advanced, Civica)?  
**Integra 2**
3. Please state the total number and value of supplier transactions (invoices and credit notes) processed by Accounts Payable in the last financial year?

|                      | <b>Total Number</b> | <b>Total Value</b>  |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total 2024/25</b> | <b>13,084</b>       | <b>£105,716,252</b> |

4. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party software to identify or protect against supplier payment errors (including duplicate, erroneous payments or potential fraud) before payment is made? **No**
  - a. If yes, please state the name of the software, the engagement date, the current contract end date and the annual value of the contract awarded to the external organisation (or total value and contract length). **N/A**

5. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party or 3rd party software to identify historical payment errors (including duplicate, erroneous payments or potential fraud)? **Yes**

- a. If yes, please state the name of the software or partner, the engagement date and the current contract end date and frequency of engagement (if not continuous). Please also provide the contract value or terms of engagement (if not a fixed fee).

|         | Contract Start Date | Contract End Date | Contract Value   |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| NFI     | N/A                 | N/A               | N/A              |
| Liaison | 27 Jun 2023         | 31 Mar 2027       | Commission based |

- b. Please provide the value of monies recovered by the software or partner for the most recent financial year. **£36k**

6. Does the authority utilise any 3rd party or 3rd party software to reconcile supplier statements and identify overpayments or unclaimed credits on a regular basis? **No, aged creditor are reviewed within our own system.**

- a. If yes, please provide the name of the provider/software and a brief description of frequency/level of support. **N/A**

- b. Please provide the current contract end date and the annual value of the contract awarded to the external organisation (or total value and contract length). **N/A**

7. Does the authority make any checks, either directly or via any 3rd party or 3rd party software to identify sanctioned suppliers, both directly and indirectly owned, within the supplier master file? **NMBC completes checks to identify sanctioned suppliers.**

- a. If yes, please provide the name of the provider/software and confirm the frequency of checking. **NMBC will be notified of any sanctioned suppliers via the Atamis tendering portal, this will be checked and managed nationally.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



**Nicola Griffiths**  
**Deputy Director of Governance**