

Our Ref: NG/RM/26043
Date: 17th February 2026

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Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 12th January 2026. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Please provide the following information.

1. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for the Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) solution (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: The practice of securing organisational assets such as laptops, desktops, mobile phones, and servers against malicious activity. It encompasses tools and strategies designed to detect, prevent, and respond to threats directly on the device itself.
2. Please provide the following information for the current maintenance and licensing agreement for the primary Perimeter Firewall/Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) solution (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: The processes and technologies used to protect the boundaries (the perimeter) of an organisation's internal network from unauthorised external access. It involves monitoring and controlling incoming and outgoing network traffic.
3. Please provide the following information for the service agreement covering the Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM) platform or equivalent third-party cloud security monitoring tool (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: The set of security measures designed to protect data, applications, and infrastructure running in cloud environments (e.g., AWS, Azure, GCP). It also includes securing internally and externally facing applications themselves (application security).

4. Please provide the following information for the service agreement covering your Identity & Access Management (IAM) software (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: A framework of policies and technologies that ensures the right users have the appropriate access to the right resources at the right time. It involves managing digital identities, authentication (verifying identity), and authorisation (granting access).
5. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for your current Managed Security / SOC Services (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: The outsourcing of security monitoring and management to a third-party expert. A Security Operations Centre (SOC) is a centralised function (internal or outsourced) responsible for continuous monitoring, threat analysis, and managing security incidents.
6. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for your current Vulnerability & Compliance Management service (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])
 - DEFINITION: The continuous, cyclical practice of identifying, classifying, prioritising, remediating, and mitigating software weaknesses (vulnerabilities). Compliance Management ensures that security practices adhere to specific internal policies, regulatory requirements (like GDPR), and industry standards.

The Trust does not hold the specific information requested in relation to individual contracts for the above mentioned services.

These services are not contracted for directly by the Trust. The Trust has a managed IT service arrangement with Staffordshire & Shropshire Health Informatics Service (S&SHIS) under which responsibility for the procurement, licensing, maintenance, and management of the above security technologies and services sits with the provider. As such:

- **The Trust does not hold individual supplier details for the specific products referenced.**
- **The Trust does not hold separate contract start/end dates for these components.**
- **The Trust does not hold individual annual spend figures for 2025/26 at product level.**
- **These arrangements do not appear as discrete entries on the Trust's Contract Register.**

The only contract held by the Trust in this context is the overarching Managed Service Agreement with S&SHIS, within which these services are delivered.

Should you wish to contact S&SHIS, you will find information on how to do so here
<https://www.sshis.nhs.uk/contact-details/>

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