



Trust Headquarters
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Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 9BG

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28th January 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210118.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act.

Please provide replies / answers to all of the below points.

- 1) What Accounts Payable/Internal Audit software do you currently use for overpayment identification/preventing (including, but not limited to duplicate invoices, fraud)**

We are unable to answer this question under FOI Act Section 31 for the reasons set out below,

Section 31 applies where complying with the request would prejudice or would be likely to prejudice various law enforcement purposes (listed in the Act) including preventing crime, administering justice.

The exemption in Section 31(1) is designed to cover all aspects of the prevention and detection of crime. Section 31 is a qualified exemption which means we must undertake a public interest test which is set out below in addition to explanations behind our engagement of this exemption.

We acknowledge the public interest in openness and transparency, and we recognise that releasing this information would provide the public with assurance that we are protecting our technologies. However, disclosure of the information requested could make the Trust more vulnerable to cyber-crime as it outlines the Trust's security posture which could be used as a starting point to attack network infrastructure and/or information systems. It is in the public interest to disclose information that informs the public of how we spend our money, especially where this relates to the provision of public services.

There is also always a strong interest in disclosure from the Freedom of Information Act; in addition to our Trust's commitment to transparency and openness. However, while we strive to be transparent, we must also consider the importance of our duty to provide the public with quality and value for money services. As a result of this duty, and the risk of potential prejudice to it posed by the various reasons laid out above, we believe the interest in withholding this information outweighs that for disclosure. We therefore find that the section 31(1) exemption is appropriately engaged in this instance.

- 2) **Are you currently contracted with Fiscal Technologies?**
No
- 3) **Have you ever been contracted with Fiscal Technologies?**
No
- 4) **If the answer is yes to 2 or 3, please provide:**
- a. **Start Date, Review Date & End Date**
 - b. **Contract Value (Total & Annual)**
 - c. **Contact person for the contract**

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust