FOI 3015

Date 08/05/2024

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. In the financial year ended March 31st 2024, what was the total amount spent on management consultancy, including all contracts where the spend exceeded £25,000 in the year.

£161,212

1. How much of this spend was spent through frameworks:

a) Crown Commercial Services Frameworks - £28,000

b) NHS Shared Business Service Frameworks - £0

c) other frameworks - £27,700

1. Does the authority have any policies which mean that either

a) All consultancy contracts have to be procured through a framework - No

b) All contracts with an expected value above a certain amount have to be procured via a framework (if so, specify the value) - No

1. Has the authority undertaken a risk assessment relating to procurement via the NHS Shared Business Service Consultancy Framework? If so, did the authority consider that:

a) this framework required over 15 months from advert to contract award – N/A

b) At least 8 bidders who were initially rejected by NHS SBS complained and were admitted to the framework – N/A

c) NHS SBS is a joint venture with a private company, Sopra Steria, and declines to respond to FOI requests, and essentially a private company is determining which suppliers are eligible to receive public money – N/A

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If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

 Yours sincerely,

 *FOI Officer*

 Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust