FOI454 – FOI request concerning waste management

I can confirm that Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust holds some of the information you requested. Please see our responses below to your Freedom of Information request.

1. Contract Type- From the examples given please state what type of contract this is. Please state other and type of contract if the type of contract is not listed above. In some cases the organisation will have one or two big contracts that is covered in a managed contract please state in the contract description what services the contract provides as well.

   Southern Health has the following waste management/recycling contracts:
   • Other: a healthcare/clinical waste contract that deals with all hospital hazardous waste
   • Other: a domestic and recycling waste contract which includes WEEE (waste electronic and electrical equipment) and non-hazardous waste disposal
   • Other: Confidential Waste Contracts
   • Other: Sanitary bin contracts

2. The supplier of the recycling or waste contract
   • Healthcare/clinical waste contract - VEOLIA ES (UK) LTD
   • Domestic/recycling waste contract – SRCL
   • Confidential waste contracts and Sanitary bin contracts – these are largely locally agreed contracts and agreements made individually in the 100+ Trust sites. Records of these are not held centrally and a manual exercise would have to be completed involving identifying and contacting the relevant managers at all the sites. As such we consider an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to this element of the question. Section 12 of the Act allows the Trust to refuse to answer requests for information if the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit as prescribed in the Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244). This is currently £450 or 18 hours’ worth of work.

3. What is the annual average spends for each of the suppliers. For those organisations with new contracts can you please specify the estimated spend?
   The current contracts are up for re-procurement and the Trust, as part of a consortium, is mid-way through a tender exercise. We therefore believe that an exemption under Section 43(2) of the Act applies. Section 43(2) exempts information which, if disclosed, would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person or authority. We believe that the commercial interests of the Trust and other members of the consortium are likely to be prejudiced if this information is released at this stage as it will prevent prospective bidders from submitting the most competitive bids. We have considered the public interest test and consider that the public interest is in non-disclosure as this will allow best value for tax-payers money to be achieved in the awarding of the new contracts.
In order to assist, however, we would like to direct you to the Trust’s annual reports which provide some overarching financial information about waste management. These can be accessed via the following link

http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/about/performance/annual-report/

4. A brief description of what the contract entails. Please be specific to the services provided under these contract(s).

**Healthcare/Clinical waste contract**

Collection, transportation, treatment/final disposal of clinical waste (Hazardous and non-hazardous) for all sites managed, owned or occupied and patient homes where treatment has been administered by members of the Hampshire consortium.

The contractor will be required to comply with all current and future UK legislation, regulation and guidelines, and must provide annually copies of all certificates permits and licences relating to all sites and vehicles used to transport, treat / dispose of the consortiums waste.

All containers and identity tags for storage, segregation and disposal of waste must be provided by the contractor following colour coding recommended by Safe Management of Healthcare waste latest version. Containers must meet UN requirements for the waste type contained.

**Domestic/Recycling Waste Contract**

Collection, transportation, treatment and final disposal of construction and maintenance waste (Hazardous and non-hazardous) for all sites managed, owned or occupied by members of the Hampshire consortium.

The contractor will be required to comply with all current and future UK legislation, regulation and guidelines, and must provide annually copies of all certificates permits and licences relating to all sites and vehicles used to transport, treat / dispose of the consortiums waste.

All containers for storage, segregation and disposal of waste must be provided by the contractor and must meet UN requirements for the waste type contained.

Examples of waste streams are:

- Fluorescent Tubes – lights containing mercury,
- White goods – containing refrigerants, electronic components and assorted materials such as rubber, plastics and metals,
- paints – including but not inclusive of oil and water based paints including aerosol spray paints,
- Oils – including but not inclusive of organic, mineral and synthetic oils including cooking oil, heating oil, including aerosol spray oils,
- Batteries – including but not inclusive of Alkaline, Chromic acid, Lithium, Mercury, Lead Acid, Zinc, Nickel, Sodium,
- Waste electrical, electronic equipment WEEE – Electrical or electronic equipment which is waste within the meaning of Article 1(a) of Directive 75/442/ EEC, including all components, sub-assemblies and consumables which are part of the product at the time of discarding. WEEE that is not designated for re-use as whole appliances must be sent for treatment, systems for the treatment of WEEE must use best available treatment recovery and recycling techniques
- Chemicals – including but not inclusive of paint strippers / thinners, alcohol gels, glues and solvents,
- Inert – including but not inclusive of building rubble, concrete, sand and soil,
- Gypsum – Plasterboard and Ceiling tiles,
- Fuel – diesel from generators, End of life vehicles, motorised and electric including hybrid vans, cars and bikes
• Collection, transportation, treatment and final disposal of food waste (Hazardous and non-hazardous) for all sites managed, owned or occupied by members of the Hampshire consortium. All food waste collections, handling and processing must be compliant with the Animal by Products Regulations 2005. Waste generated during the preparation of meals and any food that is not consumed. It includes food that has been thrown away not used or partly used. It does not include packaging materials. Food waste may include: vegetable peelings, fruit scraps, teabags, coffee grounds, egg shells, and dairy and bread products also raw & cooked meat, cooked food, meat, fish, bones, etc.

Confidential Waste (multiple contracts but majority should include the following)
Collection, transportation, treatment and final disposal of confidential waste (Hazardous and non-hazardous) for all sites managed, owned or occupied by members of the Hampshire consortium.
Provision for a confidential waste disposal service, this must include collection direct from secure containers or consoles with in Trust sites, these must be provided by the contractor and should be clearly marked as “Confidential Waste”.
Confidential waste is defined as material containing person identifiable information, sensitive personal or business data which requires destruction to ensure that the contents remain private in order to comply with the Data Protection Act. This includes items other than paper products such as DVD’s. CDs, hard drives, videos and other media.

5. What is the contract duration of the each of the contract(s)?
   We let contracts for three years with the option of extending for two twelve month periods

6. What is the start date of each contract(s)?
   Veolia – 01/04/09
   SRCL – 01/04/08
   Confidential waste and Sanitary bins – various (exemption under Section 12 applies, see answer to Q2)

7. What is the expiry date of each contract(s)?
   The Veolia and SRCL contracts expire on the 31st March 2014. Confidential waste and Sanitary bins – various (exemption under Section 12 applies, see answer to Q2)

8. When does the organisation intend to review these contract(s)
   The 2 main contracts detailed above are reviewed monthly

9. Who is responsible for reviewing this contract please send me their full name, actual job title, contact number and their direct email address.
   There is no single person with responsibility for reviewing the contracts and these are managed by the Facilities management team. The team can be contacted via waste-Admin@SouthernHealth.nhs.uk or on 02380475200.

10. If this contract has just been awarded within the last six months can you please send me information on the shortlist of suppliers that bid on the contract?
    The contract is currently out for re-procurement and has not reached the shortlisting stage yet.