Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
caring supporting improving together

FOI/38113

9 October 2026

Vendor Management System

To make it as straightforward as possible to provide the requested information, I have attached an Excel spreadsheet containing the requested fields. Where possible, I would be grateful if you could complete and return the spreadsheet with your response.

The information requested relates to your organisation's current Master Vendor, Neutral Vendor, Direct Engagement, e-Rostering and EPR arrangements, including the relevant provider, staff groups covered and current contract expiry date.

Where more than one provider, contract or arrangement applies, please provide a separate row for each.

If any of the requested information is not held, please indicate this in the relevant field.

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust does not operate or manage a local Vendor Management System (including MSP, neutral vendor, master vendor, or direct engagement models) for agency workers or bank workers.

Any regional procurement arrangements for agency use is managed centrally through the Business Services Organisation (BSO) Procurement and Logistics Service. Belfast Trust does not manage detailed contractual information such as supplier names, contract start and end dates, or framework details.

Please contact foi.bso@hscni.net for further information.

One of the electronic health record systems used across Health and Social Care Northern Ireland (HSCNI) is Epic, which is known locally as Encompass. However, the contractual arrangements relating to Encompass are held by Digital Health and Care Northern Ireland (DHCNI) and/or the Department of Health, rather than Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT).

Accordingly, Belfast Trust does not hold the requested information for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and, under Section 1(1)(a) of the Act, can confirm that the information is not held by this Trust. You may wish to direct your request to DHCNI or the Department of Health, which may be better placed to provide the information requested. DoH Freedom of Information | Department of Health

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EPR Systems

Belfast Trust holds information relating to its Electronic Patient Record systems. However, the requested breakdown of provider details, staff groups covered and contract expiry dates is being withheld under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (prevention or detection of crime).

EPR systems are recognised as high-value cyber targets. Disclosure of this information would provide valuable cyber reconnaissance information relating to essential systems, suppliers and operational dependencies, potentially increasing the risk of targeted cyber-attacks against the Trust, wider Health and Social Care sector or critical supply-chain.