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NG17 4JL

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RE: Freedom of Information Request

27th February 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 3rd January 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. Do you have a dedicated ICT test team?** No (Team assembled from existing staff as required)
- 2. Do you outsource project testing?** No (Team assembled from existing staff as required)
- 3. Do you outsource BAU testing?** Nottinghamshire Health Informatics Service is an NHS Organisation providing all IT Support Services to the Trust via a block contract under a Partnership Agreement. Within this provision some BAU testing is completed in regards the IT estate.
- 4. Do you test core functions (not just key applications) before releasing your regular Operating System patches and updates to the ICT estate?** Before general roll out, patches are released to a specific group of users/devices that incorporate the different situations and job roles across the estate to ensure that if a Patch causes an issue we become aware prior to general release. This model supports the testing of core functionality as well as key applications.
- 5. Do you test your new End User Devices and peripherals before deploying to the ICT estate?** Nottinghamshire Health Informatics Service test new End User Devices and peripherals before deployment within the Trust.
- 6. Would you consider using an independent Testing as a Service(TaaS) option? If not, please explain why.** Not for patch/update testing.

Before general roll out, patches are released to a specific group of users/devices that incorporate the different situations and job roles across the estate to ensure that if a Patch causes an issue we become aware prior to general release. The testing is therefore undertaken in a business-as-usual approach by the users who have access to the applications, many of which are clinical and contain patient data. For this reason we would not consider external testing of patches.

Home, Community, Hospital.

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Chair Claire Ward
Chief Executive Paul Robinson

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.