Public Services Delivery
Scotland

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NHS SCOTLAND

[redacted]

[redacted]

Date 13 November 2026
Your Ref FOI-2026-3534
Our Ref FOI-2026-3534

Enquiries to [redacted]
Email psd.foi@nhs.scot

Dear [redacted]

Freedom of Information Reference FOI-2026-3534

I refer to your Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) request that we received on 18 October 2026 requesting the following information:

> **Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I request the following information regarding the National Procurement framework for Static Cushions (NP632/21) and its predecessor (NP632/16):**
>
> 1. **The awarded unit price per product for each supplier and lot (the framework price schedule).**
>
> 2. **For financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date: the quantity of each cushion product purchased by NHS Scotland boards under the framework and the total amount paid (excluding VAT), by product and supplier.**
>
> 3. **The planned date of the next tender for static cushions.**
>
> **Please provide the information in Excel or CSV format if possible. If complying in full would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please prioritise the most recent financial year and advise me how I could narrow the request (section 15 duty to advise and assist). If you consider any part commercially sensitive, I would be grateful to receive the remaining information, with only the specific withheld items redacted, and the exemption relied on.**

We have now completed the search of our records and can provide you with the following information:

1. **The awarded unit price per product for each supplier and lot (the framework price schedule).**

   Under the FOISA Section 33(1)(b) exemption for "Substantial prejudice to commercial interests" Public Services Delivery (PSD) Scotland has determined that some of the

information requested is exempt from disclosure, specifically the awarded unit prices per product for each supplier and lot (the framework price schedule). Disclosure of this information would reveal commercially sensitive pricing information submitted as part of a competitive procurement process.

This exemption applies where disclosure of the information would, or would be likely to, prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any person or organisation, including public authorities. In this case, releasing the information could:

- Undermine the competitive position of the suppliers concerned by revealing detailed pricing structures and commercial strategies.
- Allow competitors to use the information to gain an unfair advantage in future tendering exercises.
- Reduce the effectiveness of future procurement exercises by impacting suppliers' willingness to provide competitively priced bids.
- Prejudice the ability of PSDS and other contracting authorities to secure best value in future procurements.

We recognise that there is a public interest in transparency and accountability regarding public expenditure. However, on balance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure, due to the likelihood of substantial prejudice to the commercial interests of the suppliers concerned and the potential adverse impact on future procurement activity.

2. **For financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date: the quantity of each cushion product purchased by NHS Scotland boards under the framework and the total amount paid (excluding VAT), by product and supplier.**
   Under Section 17 of FOISA for "Information not held" PSD Scotland does not hold expenditure information for the financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 or 2025/26. However, we are able to provide annual supplier expenditure for the 2025 calendar year. Please find attached spreadsheet entitled "2026-3534 Appendix 1 – Static Cushions (NP632/21) 2025 Expenditure", which sets out expenditure by supplier, excluding VAT.

3. **The planned date of the next tender for static cushions.**
   Under Section 17 of FOISA for "Information not held", a date for the next tender for static cushions has not yet been determined. Any future tender opportunity will be advertised through the Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) and Public Contracts Scotland-Tender (PCS-T) portals.

From 1 April 2026, NSS and NHS Education for Scotland (NES) joined to form PSD Scotland, enabling transformation in health, social care, and the wider public sector. More information regarding PSD Scotland can be found at the following URL:

Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland)

I trust you will find the information of assistance and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me using the email address psd.foi@nhs.scot

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the Associate Director Corporate Governance using the email address psd.foi@nhs.scot within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their online Appeal form.

Yours sincerely,

