

## **FOI 0388/2025 Response**

**I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the terms of The Freedom of Information Act, answers to the following questions.**

**1. How many medical devices/EBME managed devices does the Trust own?**

We currently have 2,435 unique medical devices / EBME-managed assets recorded against Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust on our EBME contractor's asset register for 2025/26, based on the combined master asset list and Not Presented devices report.

**2. How many Trust medical devices are subject to lease/finance arrangements?**

For medical devices within the scope of our EBME and patient-handling maintenance contracts, the number recorded as being subject to lease or finance arrangements is 0.

**3. How many patient beds does the Trust own?**

At organisation level, the most recent Care Quality Commission report states that we provide services with approximately 700 inpatient beds across more than 40 sites.

**4. How many patient beds are subject to lease/finance arrangements?**

The number of patient beds recorded as being subject to lease or finance arrangements is 0.

**5. Does the Trust maintain the devices using an EBME/Clinical Engineering/Medical Physics Department?**

We do not operate an in-house EBME, Clinical Engineering or Medical Physics department for our diagnostic, therapeutic and patient handling equipment.

**6. How many Engineers are employed by the Trust within the EBME/Clinical Engineering/Medical Physics Department?**

We do not employ EBME, Clinical Engineering or Medical Physics engineers directly within the Trust. All EBME and patient-handling engineering support is provided by the external suppliers.

**7. Does the Trust subcontract the maintenance of any medical/EBME devices to an external service provider?**

Yes. We subcontract maintenance of medical devices to external specialist providers.

## **8. What devices are under service contract with an external service provider?**

Our main externally provided maintenance arrangements cover the following devices.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Cardiovascular and resuscitation equipment (for example automated external defibrillators, ECG machines, pulse oximeters)
- Diagnostic equipment (for example spirometers, Doppler units, diagnostic sets, ophthalmoscopes, auroscopes)
- Respiratory and nebuliser equipment (for example nebulisers, oxygen concentrators, suction units)
- Infusion and monitoring devices (for example infusion pumps, syringe drivers, patient monitors)
- Therapeutic and treatment equipment (for example TENS/interferential therapy units, electroconvulsive therapy equipment, treatment couches)
- Refrigeration used for clinical purposes (for example drug fridges and clinical/medical fridges)
- Electrically operated hospital beds and electrical examination/treatment couches.
- Patient handling and hygiene equipment, addressed to Summerhill Services Ltd as our logistics partner:
  - mattresses and moving and handling devices
  - stand aid
  - Mobile hoist
  - Multi-size set of hoist slings
  - Ten slide sheets

**9. If an external service provider(s) is utilised, please provide the name of the contracted service provider.**

The main external providers engaged for medical devices and related equipment are:

- Avensys UK Ltd – our contracted EBME provider for maintenance of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment under an NHS Supply Chain consortium maintenance contract.
- Arjo UK Ltd – our patient handling and hygiene equipment service provider for beds and lifting equipment at The Juniper Centre, via service contracts placed through Summerhill Services Ltd.
- Summerhill Services Ltd (SSL) – mattresses storage and distribution contractor and operator of the SHUB, providing storage, barcoding, readiness checks and logistics for mattresses and Rapid Response Stock.
- Direct Healthcare Group (DHG) – manufacturer/supplier that provides mattresses, profiling beds, hoists, chairs and associated equipment on a consignment (pay-on-use) basis as part of the Rapid Response Stock arrangement.

**10. Where an external service provider(s) is utilised, please provide the type of service contract that is in place, i.e. PPM / Fully-Comprehensive / Ad-hoc support and for what device?**

**(a) Avensys UK Ltd – EBME maintenance**

EBME maintenance contract describes the service as:

- Service contract type: planned preventative maintenance (PPM), excluding parts (“PPM (EXC PARTS)”)

**(b) Arjo UK Ltd – patient handling and hygiene equipment (The Juniper Centre)**

- preventative service contracts for patient handling and hygiene equipment:
- For beds preventative servicing and ad-hoc repair visits charged additionally.
- For patient lifting equipment annual servicing, ad-hoc repairs invoiced as required.

**(c) SSL and DHG – mattress storage, distribution and Rapid Response Stock**

The mattress storage and distribution contract with SSL, together with Rapid Response Stock addendum, provides:

- A consignment and logistics model for additional beds and moving and handling devices, with no capital outlay and pay-on-use.

- Storage, basic readiness checks, decontamination logistics and dispatch provided by SSL as an operating-expense service.

This is best described as a consignment and logistics arrangement rather than a classic PPM or fully comprehensive maintenance contract.

**11. Where an external service provider(s) is utilised, please state the service contract period, i.e. start/end dates.**

**(a) Avensys UK Ltd – EBME PPM contract**

The NHS Supply Chain purchase order for our EBME PPM contract specifies:

- Contract start date: 22 June 2025

- Contract end date: 21 June 2026.

**(b) Arjo UK Ltd – patient handling and hygiene equipment (The Juniper Centre)**

The Arjo quotations for The Juniper Centre specify the following contract periods:

- Beds contract: 01 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.

- Patient lifting equipment contract: 01 June 2025 – 31 May 2026.

**(c) SSL and DHG – Rapid Response Stock (RRS)**

Rapid Response Stock change control notice records a contract commencement date of 01 November 2025 for the RRS consignment extension to the existing mattress storage and distribution contract between the Trust and Summerhill Services Ltd. The RRS arrangement is co-terminous with that underlying contract.

**12. Where an external service provider(s) is utilised, what was the value of the contract on award?**

**(a) Avensys UK Ltd – EBME PPM contract**

For the 2025/26 contract year, a total value on award of £58,926.49 (excluding VAT)

**(b) Arjo UK Ltd – patient handling and hygiene equipment (The Juniper Centre)**

The Arjo quotations for The Juniper Centre specify the following annual contract values

£3,648.00 per annum (excluding VAT).

Patient lifting equipment contract: £1,173.00 per (excluding VAT).

**(c) SSL and DHG – mattress storage, distribution and Rapid Response Stock**

The mattress storage and distribution contract with SSL, and the associated RRS consignment arrangement with DHG, use a combination of fixed annual storage/handling charges and variable pay-on-use tariffs for consigned equipment. The RRS component is “no capital outlay, pay on use” and charges depend on usage rather than a single fixed contract value at award.

**13. Please confirm as a percentage the amount of devices that have had their routine scheduled service/inspection completed.**

The Trust is unable to provide a response to this query.

This is because providing the request information in conjunction with number of devices, contract type, value, dates and spend, disclosed granular details that can be used to create unfair market competition. Which can subsequently undermine current and future suppliers.

The Trust therefore rely on exemption Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request.

**14. Please confirm as a percentage the amount of devices that have not had their routine scheduled service/inspection completed.**

The Trust is unable to provide a response to this query.

This is because providing the request information in conjunction with number of devices, contract type, value, dates and spend, disclosed granular details that can be used to create unfair market competition. Which can subsequently undermine current and future suppliers.

The Trust therefore rely on exemption Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request.

**15. Please provide the name, email address of the role responsible for managing medical devices within the Trust.**

Our Diagnostic and Therapeutic Equipment and Devices Policy identifies executive and senior clinical roles with specific responsibilities for medical devices governance, including:

- An executive lead for medical equipment (our Executive Director of Quality and Safety / Chief Nurse), who holds board-level responsibility for medical devices.
- A Medical Devices Safety Officer (MDSO), which is a designated role held by our Deputy Director of Nursing, with responsibility for oversight of medical devices safety, including

ensuring that devices are appropriately inspected, maintained and calibrated and that training and incident reporting arrangements are in place.

Please note that we are unable to share contact details as we do not routinely release staff members personal details, thus relying on exemption Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For external correspondence about medical devices governance, we ask that contacts write in the first instance via our contact form on the following link: [Contact Us - Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust](#)

Marking correspondence for the attention of the Deputy Director of Nursing (Medical Devices Safety Officer) will ensure it is routed correctly.