

FOI_34_20/21 – FOI request concerning – Sharps Containers

I confirm that we hold the information as below.

1. How many sharps containers were disposed of annually for your NHS Hospital Trust within the last 10 years?

Solent NHS Trust does not hold the information you are request in the way in which it is being requested. The report provided to us by our waste contractor provides the information based on the tonnage collected and not the number of containers. Our larger sites have their sharps bins removed from site in a wheelie bin and the whole wheelie bin is weighed and the Trust is invoiced for the tonnage. We therefore can not provide the information requested, as we do not have this information available to us.

In addition our ERIC return information will not provide us with this information either, as sharps boxes sit in the category of high temperature incineration but so does, Anatomical, Medicines and griff bins containing suction drains and blood contaminated chemical packs, so again we would be unable to extract the level of information being requested.

2. What is the annual recorded cost for sharps container disposal for your NHS Hospital Trust within the last 10 years?

Due to the above, we are unable to provide this information. Please also note that Solent NHS Trust has only established in 2012 and therefore we would not hold invoice / expenditure information for the last 10 years; we also had a ledger change in December 2014 and therefore can only provide financial information from 2015 onwards.

Please Note: If you would like to submit a new request, which reflects the permeameters we have outlined above, we would be happy to review your request and respond accordingly.