

Date: Friday, 15th September 2023
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5908

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5908

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 31st August 2023.

Your request was as follows:

Please could you kindly assist by answering the following questions regarding your Trusts use of RPA (Robotic Process Automation) under the freedom of information act.

Process Robotic Automation is a productivity tool that can mimic, emulate and automate repetitive, high -volume, labour intensive processes including data entry, data extraction and assigning data to/from different applications.

1. Does your trust currently use RPA (Robotic Process Automation)

I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust in the onboarding process of using Robotic Process Automation.

2. Which departments within your trust currently use RPA (Robotic Process Automation)

RPA has not been rolled out in any departments as of yet, as the Trust are still in the onboarding process.

3. Who supplies your licensing for Robotic Process Automation

The WCFT's license is supplied by TrustCo Plc.

4. How many bots have your purchased and over what period?

2 digital workers over 3 year.

5. Who provides the professional development? is this in house or an external provider and if so, who?

At present the WCFT are using the SS&C Blue Prism university online training resource and also link in with E18 project support.

6. What is your total yearly budget spend on RPA in FYE 21/22

£0 - contract began 23/24

7. What is your predicted spend on RPA for FYE 22/23

£0 – contract began 23/24



8. Which departments have been identified for RPA projects

Initially the WCFT are exploring areas for implementing RPA within our Finance department.

9. Is the trust intending to expand the use of RPA

As the WCFT have not begun to implement RPA solutions we are unsure how we will proceed in the future but as stated above we have purchased the licences for 3 years.

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

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Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, 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 the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 5908 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information