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From: REDACTED

To: REDACTED

Sent: Tue, 7 Mar 2023 10:12

Subject: [FOI/2698] FOI - IQ4U

St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Dear Mr Alexander

Request FOI 2698 – Expenditure on services by IQ4U

I write following your request to the Trust which we received on 19 January 2023. First, I want to apologise for the time it has taken to respond to your request.

I confirm that the Trust has now considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the response is shown below.

Q1. Please disclose how much in total did St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust pay the company IQ4U for the independent report into the trust's cardiac surgery service, carried out by Mike Bewick and completed in 2018 ("the Bewick" report).

A. *The Trust set out the costs of the review by Professor Bewick at its Board of Directors meeting in public on 29 November 2018, and a record of this is available on the Trust's website as set out in the minutes of the November 2018 Board meeting: [Final-Combined-December-Trust-Board-papers.pdf \(stgeorges.nhs.uk\)](#).*

Q2. Please disclose if the trust since 1 April 2017 to the present time has paid Mike Bewick or his company IQ4U for any other services.

A. *The Trust appointed Professor Bewick, a former Deputy Chief Medical Officer at NHS England, to lead the independent external review because he had specific experience of conducting similar reviews into cardiac surgery at NHS trusts in both Leeds and Bristol. As such, the Trust has not commissioned any further work from Professor Bewick or his consultancy company.*

Q3) If so, please disclose the total amount spent on these other services (in addition to the review of the cardiac surgery service).

A. *Not applicable.*

Q4) Please advise how the trust came to appoint Mike Bewick and IQ4U to undertake the review of cardiac surgery at St Georges.

A. *The Trust appointed Professor Bewick, a former Deputy Chief Medical Officer at NHS England, to lead the independent external review because he had specific experience of conducting similar reviews into cardiac surgery at NHS trusts in both Leeds and Bristol.*

The Trust set out in a statement on its website on 9 August 2018 the reasons for the appointment of Professor Bewick to undertake the independent external review. Please see

the following link: [Cardiac surgery at St George's – updated statement \(Thursday, 9 August 2018\) - St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust \(stgeorges.nhs.uk\)](https://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk/about/foi/trust-freedom-information-publication-scheme/)

Q5) Please outline the tendering process used to let the review contract to IQ4U?

A. *Direct award, as provided for under the Trust's Standing Financial Instructions.*

Q6) Did NHS England (or any of its predecessor bodies) recommend his appointment?

The Trust's commissioning of the independent external review and the appointment of Professor Bewick was with the support and guidance of NHS Improvement.

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Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust