

Human Tissue Authority  
151 Buckingham Palace Road  
London  
SW1W 9SZ

██████████  
  
By email to ██████████

**Tel** 020 7269 1900  
**Web** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)  
**Email** [enquiries@hta.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@hta.gov.uk)  
**Date** 3 July 2018

Dear ██████████

### Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 8 June 2018. Your email outlined the following request:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information concerning the types of accounting software and applications that may be in use by your organisation.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested, please provide advice and assistance, as to how I can refine my request to be included in the scope of the Act.

- 1) What financial accounting software do you use?
- 2) Who supplies your financial accounting software (name of vendor or supplier)?
- 3) What was the original date of purchase or contact start date for your accounting software?
- 4) When is the contact renewal or expiry date for your accounting software?
- 5) If relevant, what is the cost of annual support and maintenance (last financial year April 2016- March 2017) for your accounting software?
- 6) Is Your IT in-house or outsourced, if outsourced, who is it outsourced to, and when is this contract up for renewal?
- 7) Could you confirm if your organisation has any applications (computer systems) running on the Fujitsu (formerly ICL) VME operating system?
- 8) If so, please list the names of these applications and their main role within your organisation?
- 9) Please also confirm if you have applications;

- a) Operating on any other legacy platform such as OpenVME, IBM iSeries or written in legacy code such as Powerbuilder, COBOL etc. ?
- b) Any operating system considered expensive or (technically) challenging to enabling digital transformation?
- c) That are critical to the business but are at risk due to the scarcity of ageing support personnel or limited documentation?

10) Please confirm if these applications have been developed in-house i.e. they are bespoke to your organisation and that you own the source code.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email and I will be happy to clarify what I am asking for, my details are outlined below. I look forward to your response.

Best wishes,

## Response

In response to the questions detailed above:

1. Financial accounting system used is MS Great Plains
2. Software was supplied originally by Gyrosoft and is now maintained by Advantage Business Systems.
3. Software originally purchased in December 2009 with contract starting in January.
4. Contract renewal will be January 2019
5. Our annual support costs are c£3,900
6. Our IT is outsourced to BCC Group and the contract ends on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018
7. We have no applications running on the Fujitsu VME operating system
8. N/a
9.
  - a) We have no applications running on legacy platforms or that are written in legacy code
  - b) We do not consider any of the operating systems in use at the HTA to be expensive or technically challenging to enabling digital transformation
  - c) None of our critical business applications are at risk due to the scarcity of ageing support personnel or limited documentation
10. N/a

## Further information

If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

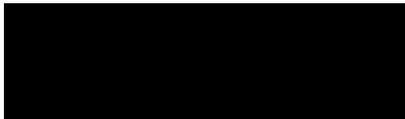
If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

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