

Ref no: 367240221  
From: Public  
Date: 24/02/21  
Subject: IT networking challenges.

## REQUEST & RESPONSE

I am an IT student and have been tasked with a project around the NHS and how they face their IT networking challenges.

Hope this does not come as an inconvenience to your organisation, but under the freedom of information act I would like to gain some insight on the below questions:

1. Who is the current provider for the trusts network infrastructure? -  
When considering network infrastructure this is specifically the switching hardware and wireless access points that may be deployed throughout the trust's estate and associated cabling etc.

### **CISCO**

What manufacturer does the trust use for the above-mentioned network infrastructure?

### **CISCO**

2. What are the approximate number of network switches deployed throughout the trust?

**600**

3. What are the approximate number of wireless access points deployed throughout the trust?

**3000**

5. What is the latest Wi-Fi version the trust support i.e. 802.11 b/g/n/ac/ax

**802.11ac Wave2**

4. What vendor currently provides the trusts cyber security system?

**Multiple vendors. Sophos for IPS / IDS. & client agents, WAF proxy and web filtering.**

**CISCO for internet boundary firewalls.**

**F5 for load balancing & traffic management.**

**Lansweeper for asset reporting**

5. How often do the trust refresh the deployed network infrastructure?

**Trust has a five year refresh programme**

6. When do the existing contracts for the switching network and the wireless network?

**Network & wireless systems are not under any contract other than for support.**

9. Does the trust currently have a SIEM (security information and event management) solution in place?

**Yes**

10. When do contracts expire for Firewalls and SIEM filtering?

**SIEM – N/A**

**Sophos firewalls - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**CISCO firewalls - perpetual license.**

11. Does the trust have a fully defined IT strategy?

**Yes.**

12. If the answer to question 11 is yes can a copy be provided?

**See attached.**

13. Please provide a copy of the IT departments organisational chart including names, contact details and job titles. If not available, a list of the names and roles of those people that work in it.

**St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust does not have an IT department. This service is provided by Mid Mersey**

**Digital Alliance (MMDA), which is a Shared Service Organisation which the Trust is Partner of.**

14. Can the trust confirm if the IT department make the final decisions with regards to purchasing new solutions for the IT environment?

**Final purchasing decisions lie with the Executive team**