

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RESPONSE**

**FOI 3482**

### **Conflict minerals**

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Please could you provide any correspondence and policy documentation regarding the ethical sourcing of tantalum, coltan or other conflict minerals in regard to medical equipment and medical devices procurement.

Please could you provide any policy documents or information provided to the NHS regarding conflict minerals and the ethical sourcing or procurement strategy adopted to ensure compliance in line with the EU ban on the use of conflict minerals 2015, and the UK voluntary agreement to comply with this regulation. This covers how the NHS ensure that procurement hubs and suppliers comply with these issues and that NHS procurement/clinicians are fully aware of them.

Please provide any guidance information you have specifically in relation to sourcing materials for medical devices that are sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This is applicable to ensuring that suppliers of medical devices containing tantalum or coltan, or any other conflict material, also adhere to EU regulation - please confirm and explain with documentation evidence how you ensure that procurement is responsible and within the law regarding conflict materials/minerals.

We are unable to answer your questions as we do not collect this information.