

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-209

4 April 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting
 - **Have you carried out nitrous oxide/Entonox personal sampling in your trust?**
Yes
 - **If so, which departments have you carried out personal sampling in?**
The most recent exposure monitoring covered the following areas:

Hospital site	Department	Analyte
St Michael's Hospital	Theatres	Isoflurane, Sevoflurane, Desflurane, Enflurane, Halothane
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Heygrove Theatres	Isoflurane, Sevoflurane, Desflurane, Enflurane, Halothane
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Endoscopy	Formaldehyde
Bristol Children's Hospital	Theatres	Isoflurane, Sevoflurane, Desflurane, Enflurane, Halothane
Bristol Eye Hospital	Theatres	Isoflurane, Sevoflurane, Desflurane, Enflurane, Halothane
St Michael's Hospital	Delivery Suite	Nitrous Oxide
St Michael's Hospital	Midwife Led Unit	Nitrous Oxide
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Plaster room	Nitrous Oxide
Bristol Children's Hospital	Plaster room	Nitrous Oxide
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Plaster room	Isocyanates
Bristol Children's Hospital	Plaster room	Isocyanates
Bristol Royal Infirmary	Heygrove Theatres	Formaldehyde
Weston General Hospital	Plaster room	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Plaster room	Isocyanates
Weston General Hospital	Radiology	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Emergency Dept	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Seashore Children's Unit	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Endoscopy	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Ashcombe – Midwife Led Unit	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Primary Care Dental Service	Nitrous Oxide
Weston General Hospital	Wish Clinic	Nitrous Oxide

- **Did you find high results in any staff members?**
No.
- **If yes:**
How many staff members were affected?
Not applicable.
- **What was the highest result you found?**
Not applicable.
- **Were these staff members informed?**
Not applicable.
- **What action was taken? (e.g. have you installed mobile destruction units?)**
Not applicable.
- **Have you suspended the use of Entonox at your trust?**
The Trust is following NHS England guidance on minimising time weighted exposure to nitrous oxide in healthcare settings, but has not been required to suspend the use of gas and air on any occasion. Information on the concerns raised is available from the NHS England website [NHS England » Guidance on minimising time weighted exposure to nitrous oxide in healthcare settings in England](#)

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, 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:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above 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 at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the

public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust