

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 20-220

16 September 2020

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

Responses (data as at 10/8/20):

The trust's testing and activity is not recorded in such a way that enables direct responses to the questions, so here is the data we are able to provide with some context and background.

The trust provides the following testing and screening services, delivered in walk-up and drive-through facilities at Ashton Gate (from the beginning of April to early July) and Weston Hospital, at various locations across our estate, and also with home visits:

- Testing of symptomatic staff and household contacts, and keyworkers from across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire; to date 1183 have been carried out for UHBW staff, and 479 for partner organisations.
- Routine screening and outbreak screening of trust staff, and also staff from partner organisations where appropriate ; to date 6209 tests have been carried out
- Screening of patients in advance of admission or attendance for a clinical procedure, specifically in locations separate from the trust's normal clinical areas; to date 4528 tests have been carried out.
- Antibody testing for staff; to date 8687 tests carried out for UHBW staff, and more for partner organisations – specific data is not available for partner organisations as this activity is delivered through several different processes.
- Support for a number of Covid-19 research studies

Testing is available for any member of staff and their household contacts who are within the first 5 days of onset of any symptoms which may be caused by Covid-19, as this is the period in which a test is likely to detect Covid-19 if it is present. Requesters can self-refer via an online form or by contacting the trust's dedicated testing hub. Testing is generally provided within 24 hours of the request being made. Partner organisations who access UHBW facilities have their own separate process for requesting, according to organisation.

The resources and cost of providing all of these services have been in part covered by existing teams, and also by a Covid-specific dedicated organisational team within the trust, supported by specialist service providers. The delivery model is integrated, covering a wide range of testing and screening services, with flexible staffing and sharing of resources between organisations for efficient and cost-effective solutions, and therefore it is not possible to disaggregate the costs to identify only those associated with one testing stream at one location.

The drive-through facilities did not attract any location costs, as the Weston site is part of the trust's estate and the Ashton Gate location was generously provided free of charge during the lockdown period, and therefore there was no benefit in detailed recording of the activity levels at each site; the intention was to make testing and screening accessible to all service users, in a range of convenient locations. Our delivery model has been adapted continuously in response to changes in lockdown measures and the profile of service demand, and continues to evolve.

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:

Director of Corporate Governance
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