

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 20-376

23 November 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 some of the information you are requesting

1. How many people are currently on the waiting list for cataract surgery? How does this compare with each year for the past five years?

738 to date. Previous data will be historic and the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

2. What is the average time a patient is on the waiting list for cataract surgery before having the procedure?

At present, approximately 35 weeks

3. How long has the patient who has had the longest wait for cataract surgery been waiting?

68 weeks – This patient requires best interest meeting, which has been cancelled three times.

4. How has Covid-19 affected waiting times for cataract operations?

Waiting times have increased, as UHBW has only recently restarted Cataract surgery, and the initial focus is on completing surgery for the most urgent cases.

5. How many cataract surgeries have you carried out each month this year?

2020-01 = 369

2020-02 = 442

2020-03 = 215

2020-04 = 0
2020-05 = 0
2020-06 = 0
2020-07 = 61
2020-08 = 101

6. How many cataract surgeries have you carried out each month last year?

2019-01 = 407
2019-02 = 582
2019-03 = 555
2019-04 = 361
2019-05 = 330
2019-06 = 283
2019-07 = 434
2019-08 = 288
2019-09 = 333
2019-10 = 398
2019-11 = 383
2019-12 = 317

7. How many cataract surgeries did you carry out each month five years ago in 2015?

January = 412
February = 350
March = 498
April = 314
May = 287
June = 395
July = 337
August = 417
September = 356
October = 353
November = 452
December = 389

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