

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 21-346

28 June 2021

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 hold some the information you are requesting

1. What is the total WTE number of staff in your organisation?

11,481

2. Of these how many are considered "front line" staff and how many are in non clinical "support" roles?

10,132 Clinical

1349 Non Clinical

3. What percentage of staff have been vaccinated against Covid 19 in each Division of the Trust?

4. What percentage of "front line" staff have been vaccinated?

Date: 01st June 2021?

5. What percentage of staff have been vaccinated within recognised ethnicity groups?

UHBW operated a hospital vaccination hub as part of the wider Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group system and indeed national vaccination programme. It is not possible to provide the figures requested in questions 3, 4 and 5 because our staff are able to receive vaccinations in various settings, not only at our hospital vaccination hub; vaccination data is held on various national systems, not all of which also capture an individual's employer or job role.

6. What processes do you have in place (if any) to ensure that unvaccinated staff working with patients do not place patients at risk of covid infection?

All staff working in clinical areas, regardless of the patient groups they are likely to be working with, have an individual risk assessment completed with their manager. This has been structured to reflect the available national guidance and has been approved through HR.

Equally all staff, regardless of their vaccination status are obliged to follow national guidelines with the use of PPE when interacting directly with patients i.e. PPE should be worn which included surgical face mask, disposable apron, gloves and if appropriate goggles or a visor. If Staff are working with patients and the transmission risk increases such as COVID-19 positive patients, depending on clinical situation such as the level of ventilation support then additional PPE would be provided.

Symptomatic staff are not be allowed to work.

Staff engage in lateral flow testing, although this not compulsory many staff do test themselves for COVID-19 twice per week.

In areas of concern/high-risk, PCR surveillance screening may be implemented.

7. Have you undertaken any work to understand and address vaccine hesitancy in particular staff / ethnic groups? Please describe the steps taken.

A comprehensive package of written and broadcast content responding to specific questions raised by staff groups about the vaccine has been promoted across the Trusts' internal communication channels. This is in addition to facts and information targeting a more generic staff audience. This included but was not limited to ethnicity, role and staff who fell into a vulnerable at-risk group.

Currently we are addressing individual queries through Occupational Health. Individual queries can be flagged to clinical teams such as the microbiology services to help answer questions.

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