

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 21-677

25 January 2022

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. Number of primary cleft lip operations carried out each month in 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2019 27

2020 19

2021 34

Please note although the request asks for a monthly breakdown a significant number of months covered had fewer than 5 operations, so it made more sense to just summarise them by year.

2. Number of primary cleft palate operations carried out each month in 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2019 55

2020 35

2021 49

Please note although the request asks for a monthly breakdown a significant number of months covered had fewer than 5 operations, so it made more sense to just summarise them by year.

3. Number of parental/patient requests for referrals for primary lip and palate repair surgery to other UK cleft teams each month in 2020 and 2021?

This information is not held electronically

Please note, 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.

4. Number of times these requests were facilitated by UHBW each month in 2020 and 2021?

This information is not held electronically

Please note, 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.

5. Number of primary cleft lip or palate operations that were carried by other hospitals on behalf of UHBW each month in 2021? For clarification - number of times primary lip or palate surgery was carried out in other hospitals such as Swansea Newcastle and GOSH with all other care planned to be carried out in Bristol. (not an exhaustive location list and surgery not as a result of patient relocation)

This information is not held electronically

Please note, 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.

6. Number of times primary cleft lip and palate operations we cancelled in 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2019	95
2020	48
2021	63

Please note although the request asks for a monthly breakdown a significant number of months covered had fewer than cancellations, so it made more sense to just summarise them by year.

7. Number of complains to UHBW about the timing of surgery for primary cleft lip and palate surgery in 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2014/15	= 0
2015/16	= 1
2016/17	= 0
2017/18	= *
2018/19	= 0
2019/20	= *
2020/21	= 6
2021/22 to date	= *

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the

low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

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