

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-031

3 February 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 do hold the information you are requesting

ACCESS TO AQUATIC PHYSIOTHERAPY

1. On behalf of which NHS Trust / Health Board are you responding?

University Hospital Bristol and Weston – Adult service

University Hospital Bristol and Weston –Bristol Royal hospitals for Children

2. Does your Trust / Health Board have access to a hydrotherapy pool?

Yes

3. If you do have access are your hydrotherapy pools onsite or offsite? (Tick all that apply)

Onsite

4. Were all your hydrotherapy pools open prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

5. If you do not have access to hydrotherapy pools, please tick all answers that apply to answer why that is.

- ☐ Closed Due to COVID-19
- ☐ Lack of funds
- ☐ Insufficient space
- ☐ No local pool available
- ☐ Not enough adequately trained staff
- ☐ Lack of appropriate local patient population
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Not applicable

6. How many hydrotherapy pools exist on your NHS Trust / Board's estate? Include those closed prior to COVID-19.

Two – 1 in Bristol Royal Infirmary site (Adult service) and 1 in Bristol Children's Hospital.

7. What are your closed hydrotherapy pools / departments now used for?

Our pools are open

REOPENING OF HYDROTHERAPY POOLS

8. Will all your hydrotherapy pools be re-opening?

Yes, they are already open

9. When are your hydrotherapy pools scheduled to re-open?

- ☐ Within 3 months
- ☐ Within 6 months
- ☐ Within 9 months
- ☐ Within 12 months
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Not applicable

10. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen, why is that? (Please select all that apply)

- ☐ Changing area capacity
- ☐ Staffing to clean
- ☐ Access to pool
- ☐ Staff still redeployed
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Not applicable

11. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen, has a full public consultation taken place?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Not applicable

12. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen has an equality impact assessment taken place?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Not applicable

OPERATING HYDROTHERAPY POOLS

13. If your hydrotherapy pools are open or scheduled to open is / will your aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy) service capacity be reduced as a result of COVID-19?

Yes

14. What capacity are / will you be able to offer compared to pre pandemic?

Please enter a percentage (%).

1:1 80% Groups 50-70%

15. Is / will your service be provided on a 1:1 basis?

No

16. Is / will your service be provided with the therapist instructing from poolside

No our therapist is able to treat from within the pool

17. Approximately how many sessions did you have access to your hydrotherapy pools on a weekly basis pre pandemic? (Where one session = one morning, afternoon or evening clinic)

9

18. Approximately how many sessions do you currently have access to your hydrotherapy pools on a weekly basis?

9

19. Which services use your hydrotherapy pools?

Rheumatology

MSK

Orthopaedics

Neurology

Paediatrics

Other (please specify) – osteogenesis imperfecta, neurorehab

20. Are your hydrotherapy pools used by inpatient or outpatient services?

Outpatients only for Adult Services – prior to pandemic occasional orthopaedic in patient

Both for Children's Services

21. Prior to the pandemic did you provide out of hours access to your hydrotherapy

pools to patient groups or private groups? e.g. NASS, Private Clinics (Please provide a list)

Yes for Adult Services

No for Children's Services

22. Have these sessions restarted? (Please provide a list of those which have restarted)

No

23. Do you currently audit the use and effectiveness of aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy)?

Yes

24. Please list outcome measures or tools used to audit the use and effectiveness of aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy)?

Will be dependant on clinical speciality

25. If you are happy to be contacted for further information to support aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy) services remobilise please provide an email address below.

No thank you

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