

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 22-149**

4 April 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 of the information you are requesting

**The role of Director/Chief/Lead of AHPs is commonly described as “Providing Workforce Leadership for Allied Health Professions, map the current AHP workforce across the trust, work with other trust AHP Directors and develop a strategic workforce plan for recruitment and retention of Allied Health Professions within the trust.”<sup>1</sup> ✓**

**Section 1. Within your Trust, do you have a role that meets the above description?**

Yes, this is the Lead AHP.

**If the answer is “Yes” answer section 2 only, and if the answer is “No” answer Section 3 only.**

**Section 2**

**2.1. What is title? Lead AHP**

**Director of AHPs**

**Chief AHP**

**Lead AHP** Lead AHP

**Other (please specify):** \_\_\_\_\_

**2.2 When was the role of Director/Chief/Lead AHP or its equivalent first created within the Trust?**

November 2021.

**2.3. Is there someone currently in this post?**

Yes.

**If no, why not?**

**2.4. If yes, are they registered as an allied health professional (AHP)?**

Yes.

**2.5 If yes, which profession?**

- ☐ **Art Therapist**
- ☐ **Drama therapist**
- ☐ **Music therapist**
- ☐ **Chiropodist/podiatrist**
- ☐ **Dietitian**
- ☒ **Occupational therapist ✓**
- ☐ **Operating Department Practitioner**
- ☐ **Orthoptist**
- ☐ **Osteopath**
- ☐ **Paramedic**
- ☐ **Physiotherapist**
- ☐ **Prosthetist**
- ☐ **Orthotist**
- ☐ **Radiographer**
- ☐ **Speech and language therapist**

**2.6. If they are not registered as an AHP, what is their professional background?**

Not applicable.

**2.7. Does this individual have a position on the Trust board?**

No.

## 2.8. Which Allied Healthcare professions are employed by your Trust?

(Please complete the table below)

	Select the AHP professions employed by your Trust	If your Trust employs this profession, select if the Director/Chief/Lead AHP or its equivalent leads/directs this profession*
Art Therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drama therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Music therapists	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chiropodists/podiatrists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dietitians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Occupational therapists	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operating Department Practitioners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orthoptists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Osteopaths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paramedics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physiotherapists	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prosthetists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orthotists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radiographers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speech and language therapists	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*The AHP professions listed above are managed at a Divisional level, not by the lead AHP.

### Section 3.

It has been shown that *“there are benefits to improvement activity, as well as to the visibility and influence of the AHP workforce on the Trust’s priorities when there is a designated AHP lead”*, and that these roles should be put in place in each Trust<sup>1,2</sup>.

3.1. Do you expect to advertise/create a job role meeting the above description within the next 6 months?

3.2. If no, are you planning to advertise/create this role in the long term 12-24 months?

3.3 If no, what has been the main barrier/s that are preventing a job role meeting the above description from being created in the long term (12-24months)?

3.4. Is your Trust aware of the NHS England and NHS Improvement strategy (2019 *Investing in chief allied health professionals: insights from trust executives.*) to have designated AHP leads?

### References:

1. NHS England and NHS Improvement. Investing in chief allied health professionals: insights from trust executives. 2019;(July).

<https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/investing-chief-allied-health-professionals/>

**2. NHS England and NHS Improvement. *Developing Allied Health Professional Leaders: A Guide for Trust Boards and Clinicians.*; 2019.**

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:

Head of Risk and Information 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**