

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 22-687**

13 December 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

**I am writing regarding funding provided by the government in 2019-20, distributed to your Trust via Health Education England (HEE), to improve rest facilities for junior doctors in line with the BMA Fatigue and Facilities Charter.**

**I understand from HEE that your Trust was provided with of this funding.**

**1. Please detail how this money was spent on improving rest facilities for junior doctors.**

A total of £58,213 has been spent to date on the Dolphin House mess in the Bristol Royal Infirmary and the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children's mess.

**2. Please provide me with any documentation that the Trust holds (e.g. board papers, business plans, emails) that documents the allocation of this funding and the justification for its use.**

Medical & Dental Education Committee (Bristol)

Wednesday 22nd May 2019

The Trust has received 60k to improve environment for junior doctors.

Suggestions will be requested at the next Junior Doctors' and Dentists' Committee.

JDDC (Bristol)

Wednesday 25th September 2019

UPDATE ON WELLBEING FUNDING TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JUNIOR DOCTORS - \*\* has a fund of £60k for wellbeing.

Originally planned to improve doctor's mess but more recently focused on converting level 9 café area into a staff only area. This will have to be approved execs and check the current catering contract. It is hoped to be open for staff with healthier food. This would put on hold the

mess in Dolphin House.

Also, wish to make a space on level 9 to be a doctor's mess making it closer for medics. Could then be small-scale items for Dolphin House such as a coffee machine, pool table and daily papers. Plan needs to be in place by Nov for using the funding. If level 9 does not proceed then will revert to looking at Doctors Mess. It was also mentioned that there is no-where in the Eye Hospital for people to eat their lunch and is the same in dental.

JDF (Bristol)

Wednesday 26th February 2020

The £60,000 wellbeing funding to improve working conditions for junior doctors has been nominally allocated. The biggest need is the Dolphin House Mess, currently waiting for a quote on flooring. Some money planned to refurbish the BEH and Paeds Mess areas. \*\* is meeting Finance tomorrow and can hopefully defer the funding into next financial year.

Medical & Dental Education Committee (Bristol)

Wednesday 20th February 2020

The Trust received £60k in funding for improving junior doctor facilities.

A proposal to repurpose some of the dining area on level 9 was declined.

The funding will be used to upgrade the Dolphin House mess along with contributing to other mess areas in paediatrics and ophthalmology.

JDF (Bristol)

Thursday 4th June 2020

Dolphin House Mess refurbishment is due to start on 8th June for about 3 weeks, so will be out of action. Undergraduate common room can be utilised during this time.

Action: Trainees to formally send in any suggestions to \*\* on what else would be useful with regards to trainee wellbeing.

Insufficient rest facilities at the BRI site already been raised by trainees. Lack of warm food options available and no catering staff only facilities. This needs to be addressed. Long term plan is to move the doctors mess somewhere more central, but a staff canteen would be appreciated. We are lacking that at this trust.

JDF (Bristol)

Wednesday 9th September 2020

\*\* thanked \*\* for the work involved in the revamp of the doctors mess, it looks so much better and will make a huge improvement to doctors wellbeing.

Update on previous actions: the lack of rest space around the Trust for the junior doctors is an action for the Facilities Team.

JDF (Bristol)

Wednesday 25th November 2020

\*\* reported that things are slightly improving, despite there being a significant lack of rest space for doctors to go to across the Trust, in order to adhere to social distancing guidance. \*\* said there are plans to increase this space such as using the BHI atrium, turning meeting

rooms into rest rooms, open up additional space in the Education & Research Centre. It's a recognised issue that is being worked on.

\*\* enquired about the £30,000 fatigue money that the trust received. Trainees wanted to see a breakdown on what it has been spent on and what is left. \*\* confirmed it was all allocated out; spending included BEH refurbishment, day beds for Paeds Mess, lockers, most went on the Dolphin House Mess revamp. Action: \*\* to send fatigue allocation breakdown to \*\*.

JDF (Bristol)

Tuesday 6th June 2021

\*\* – There is lots of work behind the scenes as to how best we can support our doctors. Working towards improving working lives. Rest areas group set up to look into making improvements to rest areas for staff. This has stalled due to those leading moving out of the Trust but will be picked back up again.

JDF (Bristol)

Wednesday 24th November 2021

Lack of rest room facilities - This was raised (more at Weston recently), that there is not enough accommodation for doctors who are too tired to drive home. Trainee Reps unsure what provisions were available following nights or long shifts. \*\* reported that this information should have been in doctor induction paperwork. There are rooms available for this reason, trainees to bleep clinical site manager 2001 who have a policy and can direct you to the right place, rooms available on all sites, staff given a key and a room for a few hours to sleep. This needs to be flagged up if system not working.

Action: \*\* to email \*\* a copy of the poster advertising the provisions to put up in the Mess

JDF (Bristol)

Wednesday 16th February 2022

Lack of rest room facilities - \*\* and \*\* have discussed this. \*\* to attend another review group tomorrow about accommodation. This is all on the radar. \*\* added that \*\* is looking at Weston liaising with the Wellbeing team there to see what space they can create at Weston. \*\* mentioned that refurbishment is taking place for a month in Weston café.

**3. Please provide me with any documentation that the trust holds (e.g. board papers, business plans, emails) that documents how the Director of Medical Education and Junior Doctors' Forum in your Trust determined, signed off and monitored the allocation of this funding.**

Please see the response to question 2 above.

**4. If your answers to questions 1-3 above do not account for the full amount of the funding in question, with which your Trust was provided, please detail what happened to the remainder.**

There is an underspend of £1,887.

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:

Data Protection Officer  
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**