

## Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-150

19 March 2024

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

**What are the waiting times for patients' surgeries (to be operated on) in every hospital department, descending from 'most' to 'least' time having to wait in each department? E.g. gynaecology department, 14 months.**

**What are the statistics for waiting times in how they have changed in the previous years, dating from 2023 to 2019?**

**What is the average waiting time for a surgery currently?**

	Average wait time in weeks					
Specialty	Jan-19	Jan-20	Jan-21	Jan-22	Jan-23	Jan-24
Oral Surgery	21	17	40	30	45	36
Other - Paediatric Services	0	0	0	30	36	30
Gynaecology	21	15	41	41	26	24
ENT	0	0	0	37	24	23
Trauma & Orthopaedics	19	15	77	82	27	23
General Surgery	0	0	37	17	38	22
Other - Surgical Services	0	0	0	43	26	21
Ophthalmology	19	11	22	19	22	19
Cardiology	18	14	28	19	18	18
Cardiothoracic Surgery	22	13	24	21	14	17
Gastroenterology	12	6	39	37	28	14
Thoracic Medicine	11	14	35	39	20	12
Dermatology	17	8	24	25	24	12
General Medicine	0	0	5	9	15	11
Other - Medical Services	0	0	0	30	23	11
Other - Other Services	0	0	0	11	9	7

**What is the number of staff performing operations at the hospital, and how have the numbers changed yearly, dating from 2024 to 2019?**

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No of staff performing operations	565	581	571	574	606	602

**What is the number of patients that have waited over 12 months for a surgery so far in 2024? E.g. since January 2024, 1230 patients have waited 15 months for a surgery – and then so on, going down.**

**How has this number changed from previous years, dating from 2023 to 2019?**

**What is the average number of patients on waiting lists for a surgery, yearly from the years 2024 to 2019?**

Specialty	Year	Over 52 weeks	Over 78 weeks	Over 104 weeks
Cardiology	2021	219	11	0
	2022	62	16	*
	2023	35	*	0
	2024	40	0	0
Cardiothoracic Surgery	2021	17	0	0
	2022	26	8	*
	2023	*	0	0
	2024	*	0	0
Dermatology	2021	*	0	0
	2022	6	0	0
	2023	82	7	0
	2024	9	0	0
Ear Nose & Throat (ENT)	2021	83	*	0
ENT	2022	233	108	30
	2023	89	20	*
	2024	84	*	0
Gastroenterology	2021	51	*	0
	2022	158	77	10
	2023	164	23	*
	2024	7	0	0
General Medicine	2023	*	0	0
General Surgery	2021	31	*	0
	2022	*	*	0
	2023	6	0	0
	2024	*	0	0
Gynaecology	2021	22	0	0
	2022	6	*	*

	2023	70	0	0
	2024	63	0	0
<b>Ophthalmology</b>	2021	133	*	0
	2022	90	*	0
	2023	178	34	0
	2024	113	26	0
<b>Oral Surgery</b>	2020	*	0	0
	2021	278	16	0
	2022	115	16	*
	2023	479	120	*
	2024	119	*	0
<b>Other</b>	2019	8	*	0
	2020	*	0	0
	2021	718	58	*
	2022	21	6	0
<b>Other - Medical Services</b>	2022	35	11	*
	2023	33	10	0
	2024	*	*	0
<b>Other - Other Services</b>	2022	*	*	*
<b>Other - Paediatric Services</b>	2022	464	159	39
	2023	864	212	7
	2024	494	37	0
<b>Other - Surgical Services</b>	2022	522	251	93
	2023	236	70	7
	2024	108	*	0
<b>Thoracic Medicine</b>	2023	*	*	0
<b>Trauma &amp; Orthopaedics</b>	2021	262	42	*
	2022	221	119	53
	2023	65	11	0
	2024	25	0	0
<b>Urology</b>	2021	55	6	*
	2022	41	15	*

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. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

**How many operations have taken place from the 1st to 7th January 2024, or any other consecutive week so far this year (in one week) and how have the numbers changed on the same dates from the years 2023 to 2020?**

Month	Total
Jan-21	2623
Jan-22	3335
Jan-23	4082
Jan-24	4795

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**