

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-734

8 October 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

1. Please could you state if your hospital Trust has a specific written policy/guidelines on what should happen when a translator/interpreter is accompanying a patient and they are in a queue for a clinic; specifically in relation to whether the patient and the translator/interpreter are moved forward in the queue? If so, could you provide me with a copy of that policy/guidelines.

NOTE: My understanding is that Trusts have a policy to move the translator/interpreter and their patient to the top of the queue, because the translator/interpreter is being paid for their time and the longer they have to wait the more expensive the process becomes. This question is seeking to see if that is the case at your Trust and whether you have a formal policy/guideline on the issue to save NHS money.

We do not have a specific policy or guidelines for this specific scenario described above at our Trust.

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