

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-976

9 January 2025

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. The number of Whole-Time Equivalents (WTE) for Cardiac Physiologists /Clinical Cardiac Scientists currently employed by your Trust in the Echocardiography Department. Please specify the WTE per banding.

Band 8a - 2.85 WTE

Band 7 - 10.72WTE

Band 6- 1.0 WTE

2. The number of vacant WTE positions in the Echocardiography Department. Please specify the banding.

0

3. How many Cardiac Physiologists/Healthcare Scientists got full TTE BSE accreditation in the last 24 months.

Three

4. Do you have any Physiologist-led / Scientist-led services within the Cardiology department? Please specify the services and the staff banding.

0.4TWE - 8a Echo led contrast (bubble study) service

0.2WTE- 8a ACHD

0.2 WTE - 8a Valve clinic

0.4 WTE - 8a Stress Echo

5. Do you have any Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists providing pediatric or/and ACHD echocardiograms? Are they congenital heart disease accredited? Please specify the services and the banding.

1.0WTE Band 7 - ACHD accredited

6. How many Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists resigned from the echocardiography department in the last 24 months.

*

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local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

7. Details of any recruitment and retention premia (R&R) offered for Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists.

Nil

8. The number of Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists locums or bank staff hired at a premium rate? (change this to in the last 24 months?)

Nil

9. Any outsourced Cardiac Physiologist/Healthcare Scientist services, if applicable. If such services are outsourced, please specify the percentage of echocardiography work outsourced on weekdays and weekends/bank holidays and what is the yearly cost for the echocardiography outsourced services?

All additional capacity is insourced or offered as Waiting List Initiatives.

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