

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-264

30 April 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. Has your Trust ever conducted a formal risk assessment specifically regarding staff and/or patient exposure to the surgical smoke plume in the operating department?

Bristol Royal Infirmary: Yes

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children: No

Weston General Hospital: This will be completed as part of a bigger project looking at all risks within the department.

2. If yes, please provide the recommendations or actions arising from that risk assessment.

Bristol Royal Infirmary: The actions for the risk involved the purchase of smoke evacuator devices, which suck/remove surgical smoke from the operating field, all actions are now completed.

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children: Not applicable

Weston General Hospital: Not applicable.

3. If yes, please specify the date (month and year) when the most recent surgical smoke plume risk assessment was carried out. N/A

Bristol Royal Infirmary: 25th April 2025

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children: Not applicable

Weston General Hospital: Not applicable.

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