

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 25-497**

3rd July 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. How many patient falls in your hospitals were recorded across your Trust between January 2023 and January 2024?**

1,792

**2. How many patient falls in your hospitals were recorded between January 2025 and April 2025?**

502

**3. Of the falls recorded between January 2023 and January 2024, how many resulted in an additional injury or condition as a result of the fall?**

Falls with moderate and/or severe physical or psychological harm - 44

**4. Of the falls recorded between January 2025 and April 2025, how many resulted in an additional injury or condition as a result of the fall?**

Falls with moderate and/or severe physical or psychological harm - 11

**5. Does the Trust have an official falls protocol or guideline?**

Yes

**6. Does the Trust have a dedicated falls team?**

Yes

**o If yes, how many staff members are part of this team?**

4.2 WTE

**7. Please provide the name, band and job title of the person responsible for leading or overseeing the falls prevention strategy within the Trust.**

Delirium and Falls Lead Practitioner; Band 8a  
[dementiateam@uhbw.nhs.uk](mailto:dementiateam@uhbw.nhs.uk)

### **Manual Handling**

**8. Does the Trust have a dedicated manual handling team?**

No, our Health Safety Department oversees Manual Handling regulatory requirements.

**o If yes, how many staff members are part of this team?**

One

**9. Please provide the name, band and job title of the person responsible for managing or coordinating the manual handling team within the Trust.**

Karen Thorp, Manual Handling and Ergonomics Advisor, Band 7.

### **Flat Lifting Equipment**

**10. Do you use any of the following flat lifting devices to assist patients from the floor after a fall? Please indicate which apply:**

- HoverJack (Etac) - Yes
- Flojac (GBUK) - No
- Rhino (Winncare) - No
- Other (please specify) - Ferno EXL 65 scoop stretchers
- None

**11. How many flat lifting devices are currently in use across the Trust? If possible, please provide a breakdown by make or model.**

HoverJacks (ETAC) x4

Ferno EXL scoop stretchers available for post-falls retrieval x26

**12. Does the Trust provide regular training to staff on the use of flat lifting equipment?**

Yes

**13. Please provide the name, band and job title of the person responsible for overseeing training and operational use of flat lifting equipment across the Trust.**

Training on Ferno Scoop stretchers is provided by the Education Team within mandatory manual handling training sessions. Training on HoverJacks is currently being provided by the Health and Safety Department to specific groups including operational site managers and clinical teams. There is a plan in place for HoverJack training to be included within all mandatory manual handling training sessions in coming months.

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**