

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 25-654**

3 September 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

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:**

**I would like to request the following information regarding MM, VIR & ID workload within the Trust.**

**The request is as follows:**

**1. Does your trust have dedicated virology laboratories, or are diagnostic tests for viral infections conducted in microbiology laboratories?**

The regional virology department is based at North Bristol NHS Trust. Please contact [FOIRequests@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIRequests@nbt.nhs.uk) for further information. We have some on-site testing capacity for respiratory viral testing (lab based and POC).

**2. Do you provide clinical advice to more than 1 trust? If so, does that include onsite availability and how many trusts, hospitals, health boards, and organisations?**

UKHSA microbiologists provide onsite activity for University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust.

**3. Is your trust responsible and/or do they cover any other laboratory, if so, how many laboratories?**

We have a limited repertoire of testing for respiratory viral screens, CDi, norovirus and houses blood cultures machines. All of the culture work and the broader viral work is undertaken at North Bristol NHS Trust.

**4. What type of lab setup does your organisation currently use?**

The majority of the bacteriology/ virology work is performed at Severn Pathology at North Bristol NHS Trust.

**5. Approximately how many tests have you received yearly for swabs, blood, urine & stools in the last 5 years for MM, MVIR & ID?**

Approximately 1.1million samples per year

**6. As a medical microbiologist / medical virologist accredited in infectious diseases, do you provide inpatient care?**

No.

**7. How many of your working hours are spent between the listed work areas, per week?**

40

**8. How many microbiologists also do virology workload**

None

**9. Does the service cover the listed out-of-hours (inpatient or other)**

We cover the Bristol Royal Infirmary site.

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**