

Date: Friday, 02nd October 2020  
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 4473

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**Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4473**

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 29th September 2020.

Your request was as follows:

1. How many Occupational Therapists worked in your service before March 16, 2020?

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT):

Headcount: 36

FTE: 32.43

2. How many Rehab Engineers worked in your wheelchair service before March 16, 2020?

WCFT does not employ rehab engineers for wheelchairs as this is contracted out to an external company.

3. How many Occupational Therapists are working in your wheelchair service today? (September 29, 2020)

WCFT does not have a wheel chair service we use external providers

4. How many Rehab Engineers are working in your wheelchair service today (September 29, 2020)

N/A see 2.

5. Have you experienced an increase or reduction in graduates applying for positions as OTs or Rehab Engineers to your wheelchair service compared to before March 16, 2020?

N/A WCFT does not have a wheelchair service

6. Have you experienced growth or decrease in OTs resigning compared to before March 2020?

Neither as recruitment / staffing has been steady throughout.

7. Have you experienced an increase or reduction in Rehab Engineers resigning compared to before March 2020?

N/A

8. Before March 16, 2020, how did you gain information about what products to prescribe to patients?

This is mostly influenced by what local authorities are able to provide that we can therefore prescribe along with use of catalogues / on line / NHS supplies

9. Today September 29, 2020, how do you gain information about what products to prescribe to the patient?

As in number 8 - No change.

10. Does your wheelchair service use more virtual communication today (September 29, 2020) compared to before

March 16, 2020?

N/A

11. Is your service fully operational as before March 16, 2020?

Yes with some adaptions to how outpatient clinics are provided such as less face to face and more video calls.

12. How does your wheelchair service gain information about new courses and training events?

N/A

13. Is there a difference in what products you prescribe today (September 29, 2020) compared to before March 16 2020?

No there is no difference

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

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If 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 the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

**Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4473 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 Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

*Mike Burns*

**Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information**