

Date: Tuesday, 11th May 2021
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 4710

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4710

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 26th April 2021.

Your request was as follows:

A) Have you instructed external lawyers for advice about how your hospital has performed since March 2020? (If possible, please restrict this advice to Covid related matters and if you are able, describe the issue that the advice was sought. for example death of patient or guidance over treatment of patients with disabilities).

[At the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust we have not instructed external lawyers for advice on any Covid related matters.](#)

B) Have you paid for an "expert independent external opinion" since March 2020? (if you are able, please say the issue that this related to, for example, care of people with disabilities during Covid19).

[At the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust we have not paid for an expert independent external opinion for any Covid related matters.](#)

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

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

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 4710 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