

Date: Thursday, 08th April 2021
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 4662

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4662

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 22nd March 2021.

Your request was as follows:

1. More hospitals and organisations are now focusing on delivering social value in their day to day. What is your position on this and how important is social value to your hospital?

Do you have a Social Value strategy, and if so, could you please share a copy of this?

Here at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT) we are supporting many activities that provide or have the potential to provide social value (recruitment/skills, sustainability, procurement etc). We are working with the Cheshire and Merseyside Healthcare Partnership and other organisations to develop our Social Value approach. Although we do not have a dedicated Social Value Strategy currently, we will consider developing one in the future and the work of many Trust employees contributes to social value

2. What are the top social value priorities for each area of your hospital? Please rank the below in order of importance and add any other which are important to you:

- Waste reduction
- Carbon footprint reduction
- Local sourcing
- Employee wellbeing
- Healthy lifestyle
- Social mobility
- Skills development
- Charity support and fundraising

- Other

It is impossible to rank importance as all of these areas are important to us. Working to address inequalities, including racial inequalities, is important for the Trust. Due to the nature of healthcare provided by the Trust, colleagues help patients to get back into and maintain work.

3. What are the key commitments for your hospital over the coming year?

WCFT will continue to drive forward the social value/anchor institution agenda, formalising our approach.

4. What are your social value priorities with regards to your staff (health and wellbeing, obesity, social mobility, equality and diversity etc.)? What actions are you planning to take to support the delivery of these priorities?

WCFT have a comprehensive programme to support the physical and mental health of staff.

5. What are your social value priorities with regards to the environment (waste, reduction in carbon footprint, sustainability, reduction in SUP etc.)? What actions are you planning to take to support the delivery of these priorities?

WCFT have setup a formal Sustainability Group for the Trust this year, with a view to have a board approved Sustainability Plan in place by March 2022.

6. What are your social value priorities with regards to the care of your patients?

Priorities for patients haven't been formally set around social value, beyond Trust colleagues helping patients to get back into and maintain work by virtue of the clinical services that we provide, and where waste management and other approaches impact patients while they are inpatients/visit the organisation.

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

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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.

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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 4662 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