

Date: Thursday, 27th January 2022
Our Ref: MB/SS FOI 4947

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4947

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 09th November 2021.

Your request was as follows:

1. Is artificial intelligence or robotics used anywhere within the hospital, if so where?

[Brainomix AI software is available in The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust \(WCFT\) used by Neurology clinicians but is not routinely utilised for our patients.](#)

2. Inventory Management: Is artificial intelligence/ automation used within the hospital's inventory management system?

[WCFT can confirm artificial intelligence/automation is not used within the hospital's inventory management system.](#)

3. If you answered 'Yes' to question 2, what inventory management / automation system is deployed ? please provide the name of the developer or software.

(Please jump to question 6 if you did not answer 'Yes 'to question 2)

[N/A](#)

4. To what extent did automation help during the early stages of the Covid 19 pandemic (Jan 2020- Dec 2020)

Extremely useful

Very useful

Somewhat useful

Not so useful

Not at all useful

Not applicable

[N/A](#)



5. To what extent did automation help during the Brexit transition period

Extremely useful

Very useful

Somewhat useful

Not so useful

Not at all useful

Not applicable

N/A

6. Were any lessons learnt on improving inventory management as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic or Brexit?

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not hold the information you have requested as this is a request for opinion and so does not fall under the remit of the FOIA, therefore we cannot provide this information.

Under the FOIA, we are not required to create this information in order to answer your request. I should explain that the FOIA is to do with transparency of information held by public authorities. It gives an individual the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. The FOIA does not require public authorities to generate information, or to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information that they already hold.

7. Where is hospital inventory stored?

WCFT Inventory is held in dedicated store areas specific by area.

8. How is unwanted inventory disposed of?

WCFT can confirm unwanted goods are initially returned to the supplier, other goods if identified are recorded and disposed of in line with the type of product it refers to.

9. May we contact you to learn more about your inventory management system? If yes, please provide an email address and a contact name

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust does not disclose individual staff members contact details. You can write to staff using the address above or alternatively email enquiries@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk asking for your correspondence to be forwarded on.

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 4947 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