

Date: Monday, 17th April 2023  
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5694

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Liverpool L9 7BB  
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**Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5694**

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 17th April 2023.

Your request was as follows:

Does the trust use dogs for any therapeutic or medicinal purposes (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance) within your hospitals or for patients at home?

[Please see attached.](#)

If so, are these dogs engaged as part of the NHS or through an external organisation (such as Support Dogs charity)

[Please see attached.](#)

Please could you specify how many dogs have been engaged for each of the last ten calendar years (2012-2022), broken down by purpose. (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance)

[Please see attached.](#)

Please list the main breeds used with the most commonly used breeds first.

[Please see attached.](#)

How many full time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc) worked with these dogs for each of the years in the same period?

[Please see attached.](#)

What was the trust's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit?

[Please see attached.](#)

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](http://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](http://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 5694 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 by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

*Mike Burns*

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