

Date: Wednesday, 05th July 2023  
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5813

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**Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5813**

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 04th July 2023.

Your request was as follows:

My enquiry is in association to your sexual health services at your NHS trust, not the private provider who may produce and/or process your STI postal test kits on behalf of your trust, but my enquiry is in relation to how much it costs you to produce, send out and process the tests via the private provider, well as how many tests you send out from your service. If you do not use a private provider, please ignore references to a private provider.

1.  How many STI postal test kits on average do you send out a year in total from your sexual health service?
2.  What is the average amount of test kits you send out to service users from your sexual health services a day?
3.  What is the maximum amount of test kits you have sent out to service users in a day?
4.  What is the average percentage of tests that are returned?
5.  What is the range return rate of the percentage of tests that are returned?

For example: One provider has told me, "Return rates typically range between 70% and 95% depending on the region, averaging between 75-80%."

6.  How much does your STI test cost to produce, send out and process, including pathology (the cost of processing the samples)?

Please provide this data in a spreadsheet format such as excel.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT) is a Specialist Neuroscience Tertiary Care Centre; we do not offer a sexual health service, therefore we cannot provide this information.

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 5813 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**