

Date: Tuesday, 21st May 2024
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 6315

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 6315

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 14th May 2024.

Your request was as follows:

I am writing with a Freedom of Information request regarding the provision and delivery of audiology services within your trust.

To better understand how your trust deals with audiology services, please clarify whether your Acute Trust provides these services:

- a. In-house (i.e. delivered in your NHS Acute Trust or provided by another NHS organisation)
- b. Outsourced (i.e. delivered by an independent provider in their care setting)
- c. Insourced (i.e. delivered by an independent provider in your care setting)

Additionally, please provide the following data for your Acute Trust and for each financial year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24:

Hearing assessments

1. How many patients had a hearing assessment within the following settings and what was the total spending in £ on treating these patients (where possible please could you give the data per independent provider contracted):
 - a. In-house
 - b. Outsourced
 - c. Insourced

Hearing aid fittings

1. How many patients had a hearing aid fitting assessment within the following settings and what was the total spending in £ on treating these patients (where possible please could you give the data per independent provider contracted):
 - a. In-house
 - b. Outsourced
 - c. Insourced

Hearing aid aftercare

1. How many patients had hearing aid aftercare performed within the following settings and what was the total

spending in £ on treating these patients (where possible please could you give the data per independent provider contracted):

- a. In-house
- b. Outsourced
- c. Insourced

Hearing aid devices

1. How many hearing aid devices were delivered to patients within the following settings and what was the total spend £ on hearing aid devices for these patients in (where possible please could you give the data per independent provider contracted):

- a. In-house
- b. Outsourced
- c. Insourced

Other

1. Could you please provide a copy of the service specification given to all bidders for when the contract for hearing aid services was last advertised?

If any of the specific splits are not available, please provide total figures for the system and specify which main splits are recorded by your Trust (in-house / independent sector).

For your convenience, I have attached an Excel file for you to use and provide the requested information. Please return the completed file via email reply.

Thank you in advance.

[The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust is a Specialist Neuroscience Tertiary Care Centre; we do not provide audiology services. 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 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 6315 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