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Wigan Lane  
Wigan WN1 2NN

Mr Andrew Foster, Chief Executive  
Email: Andrew.foster@wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI2009/0385  
Date Received: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
Response Due: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009

26<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Dear

**INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1. How many procedures over the last 18 months have been carried out under a "waiting time initiative" for each clinical department. Please include the cost of this service per patient and number if episodes, who provided this service, the contracting arrangements and clinical governance in place and the impact of the arrangement on patient waiting times/lists.**

We will not be disclosing this information as we estimate it would take a member of staff approximately 25 hours to produce and validate the initial information. Under section 12 of the Act we are entitled to withhold information if we consider that the cost of providing information would exceed £450. When calculating the cost of providing information we are required to value staff time at £25 per hour. Therefore the cost of complying with your request as it is currently drafted would be in the region of £625. We therefore rely upon the exemption at s12 of the Act to withhold the information you have requested.

If you are not satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact my colleague Lorraine Hesketh, Communications Manager on 01942 822159. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely



**Andrew Foster**  
Chief Executive

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Lorraine Hesketh, Communications Manager, Communications department, Trust HQ, The Elms, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust, Wigan RAEI, Wigan WN1 2NN.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF