

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI2021/7752

Date Received: 8th October 2021

Response Due: 5th November 2021

Date: 5th November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

1. Please could you tell me how many patient facing staff have been off on long term sick leave between 19th July 2021 and 1st October 2021.

We can provide information re: sickness by staff group but ESR does not actually identify who is "patient facing". Please see (below) the numbers of long-term absences between 19th July and 30 Sept 21 (October sickness will not yet be on the system).

Please note that the numbers below reflect anyone whose absence is indicated as long-term within the dates above and not specifically between the two dates, for instance some absences will have started before 19th July but still be included as the individuals are still absent during the period specified.

Staff Group	Long Term
Add Prof Scientific and Technic	6
Additional Clinical Services	115
Administrative and Clerical	80
Allied Health Professionals	28
Estates and Ancillary	100
Healthcare Scientists	<5
Medical and Dental	9
Nursing and Midwifery Registered	149
Grand Total	490

Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and

Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

By patient facing, I mean any staff involved in the treatment of patients either in your hospitals, clinics or at their home.

And

2. How many unfilled patient facing job vacancies do you currently have?

Below is a summary of the fte vacant in the groups that could be considered as patient facing (i.e. excluding admin and clerical, estates and ancillary).

This data was extracted from FBI for September

Staff Group	Patient Facing Vacant fte
Add Prof Scientific and Technical	9.73
Additional Clinical Services	54.88
Nursing and Midwifery Registered	87.27
allied health professions	51.78
Medical and Dental	67.82

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. 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.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Balson
Director of Workforce

PLEASE NOTE:

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: Information Governance Department,

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113