

**Wrightington, Wigan and
Leigh Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2023/8691

Date Received: 14th February 2023

Response Due: 14th March 2023

Date: 14th March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

- 1. Please could you state if you have an arrangement in place whereby an individual/company/charity is allowed into your premises to use animals as therapy for your patients? By arrangement I mean have you had a visit since 1.1.22, or a planned visit up to 31.3.23.**

Our dog therapy volunteer visits every Friday 2-3pm and this is planned for the next 6 months. Our volunteer is a registered with a pet therapy charity which is required before any site visits commence.

- 2. If there has been a visit to your premises since 1.1.22 please state the date, which parts (wards) of the Trust were visited and the name of the company/charity that provided the animals.**

Owner and pet attend the wards every Friday at 2pm and have done since 14th December 2022. They will attend a variety of wards on their shift.

- 3. If there was a fee paid by the Trust to the company/charity, please state how much this was for each visit?**

Owner and pet are registered Volunteers, therefore there is no fee paid. All pets must have the necessary certificates and documents from a recognised registered pet therapy charity before starting scheme.

- 4. For each visit, please provide me with a list of the animals that attended as part of the visit, and a copy of any risk assessment form that was completed prior to the visit.**

We have a pet therapy dog that currently comes to visit RAEI site. The owner, a volunteer, has completed a covid risk assessment which was completed with her recruitment process. The pet therapy dog has not undertaken a risk assessment we have however, checked vet's certificates for treatment

which has been provided to make sure all treatment is up to date. We keep note of wards with IPC closures, so the owner and the therapy dog avoid these causing no risks to them or patients.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on email address provided. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Boustead', is positioned above the printed name.

Tracy Boustead
Interim Chief People Officer

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