

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/2024/10449

Date Received: 21st January 2025

Response Due: 18th February 2025

Date: 18th February 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 21st January 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Please provide information on the following:

1. Disposal of medicines

Please provide, for each of the past 5 calendar years, any available data on the quantity of medicines disposed of across the trust, because they had passed their expiry date.

The Trust does not hold this information. The Trust manages the waste contracts and dispose of clinical/general waste, however what is in the bags and why is not recorded. Pharmacy costs are reported to the audit committee at each meeting, but the quantity is not collected.

2. Disposal of single-use medical supplies

Please share, for each of the past 5 calendar years, the estimated quantity and cost of single-use medical supplies that were disposed of without use, including the main causes for their non-utilisation (e.g., expiry, packaging damage).

The Trust does not hold this information. The Trust manages the waste contracts and dispose of clinical/general waste, however what is in the bags and why is not recorded.

3. Impact of overordering or over stocking on waste

Please provide, for each of the past 5 calendar years, any internal assessments or audits regarding the impact of overordering or overstocking on waste levels across the Trust, including details of corrective actions taken to minimise waste from excess inventory.

The Waste Department are responsible for managing the waste contracts and to ensure there are facilities in place for all waste streams to be disposed of correctly, inline with Waste Legislation within skips, compactors, bins. The department also ensures that our Waste Contractors collect the waste

streams on a frequent basis to ensure we do not have a build up of waste on any of our hospital or community sites. Information as to whether wards 'overorder or overstock' products is not centrally recorded as this would be their responsibility to manage stock levels appropriately.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 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 'T. Gardner', on a light blue background.

Tabitha Gardner
Chief Finance 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 123 111