

**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/2025/10557

Date Received: 26th February 2025

Response Due: 26th March 2025

Date: 18th March 2025

#### Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I am writing to formally submit a FOI request regarding the content of the attached PDF file, which contains a survey questionnaire. I kindly request that the NHS processes this as an FOI request and provides the relevant information as outlined in the questionnaire.

#### **Section 1: Demographic Information**

- 1. What is your role within the NHS?
  - g) Directors and Policy Makers.
- 2. What is your role in the deployment of Al systems?
  - c) Leadership and Management Role (involved in strategic implementation, high-level support and resource allocation, etc.)
- 3. How long have you been in a leadership role within the NHS?
  - d) More than 10 years.
- 4. Which region do you work in?
  Northwest

#### Section 2: Awareness and understanding of Al in the NHS

5. How familiar are you with Al technologies and their potential applications in healthcare? We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find

answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

# 6. In your opinion, what are the most promising applications of AI in the NHS?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

# 7. What are the biggest challenges in adopting AI systems in the NHS?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

## **Section 3: Leadership Practices in AI Deployment**

# 8. How involved are you in decision-making processes related to AI deployment in your organisation?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

# 9. What leadership strategies have you employed to facilitate Al adoption?

- a) Stakeholder engagement and communication.
- d) Developing clear governance frameworks.

## 10. How do you measure the success of Al deployment in your organisation?

- a) Improved patient outcomes
- b) Increased operational efficiency
- c) Cost savings
- d) Staff satisfaction and adoption rates

## 11. What barriers have you faced as a leader in implementing AI systems?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

# **Section 4: Ethical and Regulatory Considerations**

## 12. How important do you think ethical considerations are in Al deployment within the NHS?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

## 13. What ethical concerns do you think are most critical in Al deployment?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

- 14. How well do you think current regulatory frameworks support Al deployment in the NHS? We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.
- 15. To what extent does your organisation ensure compliance with ethical principles (e.g., fairness, transparency) in Al deployment?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

#### **Section 5: Future Outlook and Recommendations**

- 16. What do you think is the most important step the NHS can take to improve Al deployment? We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.
- 17. How confident are you in the NHS's ability to successfully integrate Al systems in the next 5 years?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

18. What additional support or resources would help you in your role in deploying Al systems? We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

#### **Section 6: Final Comments**

19. What is your confidence level that the leadership in the NHS can successfully deploy Al in clinical practice?

We are not required to create new information to respond to a request or give judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Furthermore, the Trust is not required to create new information or find answers to a question from staff that may happen to know. The Information Commissioner has confirmed this position in its online guidance on handling FOI requests.

#### **Closing Statement:**

If you would like to receive a summary of the findings or participate in further research, please provide your email address below (optional):

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members as a large number of unsolicited emails/telephone calls could cause disruption to work by blocking email accounts/telephone lines and thereby preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of our staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

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,

**Garry Harris** 

Deputy Director Digital & Chief Technology 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