



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/2024/10053

Date Received: 12th August 2024

Response Due: 10th September 2024

Date: 3rd September 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 12th August 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I'd be grateful if you could please confirm the following information regarding the Trusts Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), the Trusts adoption of a Digital Pathology solution as well as some high-level departmental statistics across the Trust:

Please Note: Definitions of each solution type are provided at the bottom of this request.

******* LIMS - Information Request *******

Current LIMS Supplier Name?

SCO – Dedalus

BRO – Clinisys

Current LIMS System Name?

SCO – Telepath

BRO – Labcentre

Current LIMS Contract Commencement Date?

SCO – 1993

BRO – 2009

Current LIMS Contract Expiration Date?

SCO – Telepath 31/03/2025

BRO – Labcentre 28/02/2025

Does the current LIMS allow for bidirectional information sharing?

SCO – Yes

BRO – Labcentre is not bidirectional, it is “push” only.

Does the current LIMS allow for image import?

SCO – No.

BRO – No.

*******Current Digital Pathology Solution*******

Current Scanner Supplier Name?

Hamamatsu

Current Viewer System Name and Provider?

Sectra

Contract Commencement Date?

2021

Contract Expiration Date?

2026 *this is a GM wide contract, not just NCA.

If no Digital Pathology Solution is installed, can you please confirm the following:

Does the Trust have plans to adopt a Digital Pathology solution in the next 2 years?

N/A

*******Trusts Departmental Statistics*******

Can you please confirm the number of Pathology Departments across the Trust?

4

PAWS (Pathology at Wigan and Salford) is a shared service between Wigan and Salford, and has been since 2012. Subsequently, Salford Royal NHS Ft merged with the Pennine Trust to form the Northern Care Alliance NHSFT.

Can you please confirm the number of Pathology slides processed per annum?

226,895

Can you please confirm the number of Pathology Consultants in full-time or contract employment across the Trust?

PAWS Biochemistry = 1

PAWS Haematology = 0

PAWS Cellular Pathology = 18

PAWS Microbiology = 8

******* System Definitions *******

Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) - A LIMS is a software system designed to support the operations of a laboratory. It helps manage and track samples, associated data, and laboratory workflows. LIMS is crucial in many types of labs, including research, clinical, pharmaceutical, environmental, and manufacturing labs.

Digital Pathology Solution - A Digital Pathology Solution is a technology platform that facilitates the digitisation, management, analysis, and sharing of pathology data. This system primarily involves converting traditional glass slide samples into high-resolution digital images, which can then be analysed using specialised software. Digital Pathology is increasingly used in clinical diagnosis, research, and education due to its numerous advantages over traditional methods.

PAWS (Pathology at Wigan and Salford) is a shared service between Wigan and Salford, and has been since 2012. Subsequently, Salford Royal NHS Ft merged with the Pennine Trust to form the Northern Care Alliance NHSFT.

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 black ink, appearing to read 'Sanjay Arya', with a horizontal line underneath.

Sanjay Arya
Medical Director

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