

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2025/10662

Date Received: 9th April 2025

Response Due: 12th May 2025

Date: 7th May 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 9th April 2025, 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:

1. What are your Trust's capital investment priorities over the next five years?

- Estate: developing our sites in a logical sequence which will aim to mitigate risks, for example, aged buildings, and to set the platform for our longer-term goal to become a Carter† exemplar, as well as support future capacity expansion to accommodate increases in demand, for those services where this is indicated.
- Medical equipment: focusing on strategic investment in diagnostic and treatment technologies to enhance patient care and operational efficiency, through phasing out outdated equipment and introducing modern technologies.
- Digital: focuses on maintaining and expanding digital infrastructure, improving access to data for both patients and staff, enhancing patient engagement (e.g. accessing healthcare remotely, managing long-term conditions from home), and strengthening cybersecurity measures.
- Net zero: the Trust's Green Plan outlines our strategic approach to sustainability, aligning with our ambition to become a net zero NHS trust.

† The Carter Review, conducted by Lord Carter of Coles, highlighted estate inefficiencies and recommended approaches to improve productivity.

2. How much capital funding has the Trust been allocated for estates development this financial year (2025/26), or (where unknown) how much is the Trust expecting to be allocated?

Each financial year the Trust is given a capital delegated expenditure limit known as CDEL. This is the amount of capital expenditure the Trust is permitted to incur during the financial year, and this can be against a wide range of capital schemes including medical equipment, digital schemes and estates

backlog maintenance. Large capital schemes involving the development of a new site or facility are generally funded through public dividend capital (PDC) which is provided by the department of health. The Trust has been awarded PDC total funding of £11.6m for 2025/26 to fund: the development of urgent emergency care £5.7m, Estates safety schemes £2.7m, installation of solar panels £2.2m and £1.0m for the upgrade of some of its theatres.

- 3. Are there any confirmed or proposed capital investment projects at your Trust relating to new healthcare facilities, such as new hospital buildings, Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs), surgical hubs, new wards, theatres, pathology labs, or aseptic units? If so, please provide details, including the nature of these plans, current stage of planning, whether a construction partner has yet been contracted, project scopes, estimated costs, timelines, and contact details for the project's Senior Responsible Officer (where available).**

The Trust has no confirmed plans for new builds currently.

- 4. If there are any current OPEN procurement opportunities (e.g. expressions of interest or opportunity notices) related to construction projects at your Trust, please provide links to the tender notices where available, and contact details for the relevant department or individual(s) responsible for these projects?**

A small number of small-scale refurbishment / fitouts works conducted via framework or traditional tender.

- 5. Who within the Trust is responsible for overseeing estates development and capital projects (e.g. Director of Estates)? Please provide name and contact details where possible.**

John Fairhurst, Director of Estates and Facilities.

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members, as large numbers of unsolicited emails/telephone calls, could cause disruption by blocking email accounts/telephone lines thus preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above 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,



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