

# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI/2025/10783

Date Received: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Response Due: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 27<sup>th</sup> May 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:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:**

**1a. A copy of any policies, standard operating procedure or guidance that sets out how the Trust identifies who qualifies as a foreign national or overseas visitor required to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS).**

Please see the attached SOP and FAQ.

**1b. Please provide the results of the last audit of this policy and compliance levels with it. If such an audit has not been conducted within the last five years, please say so.**

Please see the attached report.

**2a. A copy of any policies that set out what steps are taken if a patient, eligible to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS), seeks to access (or in fact has already accessed) services provided by the Trust for which payment would be owed.**

Please see the attached SOP.

**3a. A copy of any policies, standard operating procedure or guidance which set out the steps taken to invoice a foreign national for any episode of care delivered by the Trust which was not billed/invoiced for prior to the episode of care being delivered.**

Please see the attached. Section 16.8 in the policy refers to invoicing.

**3b. A copy of any policies, standard operating procedure or guidance that set out the steps the Trust takes to collect unpaid debts where an episode / episodes of care have been provided to a foreign national.**

Please see the attached.

**3c. Data which sets out the total amount (in GBP) for each of the last 3 calendar years that has been collected for the provision of any episode of care for a foreign national (i.e. any individual who is not entitled to that care free at the point of use).**

**i. Collected by the Trust**

2024/25 = £24,923.00

2023/24 = £39,931.58

2022/23 = £18,354.01

**ii. Collected by a third party**

2024/25 = £0.00

2023/24 = £0.00

2022/23 = £1,800.00

**iii. That the Trust has written off**

2024/25 = £8,081.73

2023/24 = £71,888.04

2022/23 = £28,220.47

**3d. The total amount (in GBP) which remains uncollected by the Trust for the provision of any episode of care for a foreign national.**

£259,574.69.

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