

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/2025/10855

Date Received: 23rd June 2025

Response Due: 21st July 2025

Date: 17th July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 23rd June 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:

We request under FOIA that you provide, (preferably in Microsoft Excel or an equivalent machine-readable format) the following information in respect of suppliers which were not paid in within 30 days for the period starting 1 April 2023 to the date of this request (23/06/2025):

1. **Supplier Name** = being withheld under Section 31 of the FOI Act.
2. **Invoice Date** = please see the attached.
3. **Gross Invoice Value** = please see the attached.
4. **Payment Date** = please see the attached.
5. **Late Payment Compensation or Interest Paid (if any)** = no late fees recorded for these suppliers.

Clarification:

We reiterate that this request:

- a) **is limited to information which should (if proper records are kept) be readily available from a purchase ledger system and should therefore be possible to retrieve without any difficulty and without imposing any significant burden;**
- b) **relates to organisations (not individuals) who are entitled to be paid out of public funds for public services, and we do not require the disclosure of any personal information of any individual person;**
- c) **does not require the disclosure of any confidential information or information to the production of which there could be any other lawful objection.**

Under Section 31 (1)(a) of the freedom of Information Act 2000, the information is exempt from disclosure where its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. The

exemption is qualified by a public interest test. The trust believes that if it released the information requested into the public domain there would be a risk that this information could be used against the Trust and suppliers as disclosing unpaid invoices and supplier information may encourage fraudulent activities. Therefore, the trust considers that the balance of the public interest is in favour of withholding the information in view of the risk of crime.

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