



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/2025/10960

Date Received: 28th July 2025

Response Due: 26th August 2025

Date: 22nd August 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 28th July 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:

To whom it may concern, I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the cyber security of your NHS Trust, specifically relating to incidents and the current measures in place to mitigate such threats.

Ransomware incidents (FY2022–FY2025)

- 1. Please confirm whether any digital systems within hospitals managed by your NHS Trust were affected by ransomware attacks during the financial years 2022–2023 through to 2024–2025 (inclusive).**

There were no ransomware attacks during the period 2022/23 or 2024/25.

If yes:

- 2. How many separate ransomware incidents occurred within this period?**

N/A.

- 3. For each incident, please provide:**

- The date or month of occurrence
- A brief description of the nature of the attack (e.g. type of ransomware, point of system entry, services impacted)

N/A.

Data breaches following cyber incidents (FY2022–FY2025)

- 4. Were any data breaches reported as a result of ransomware or other cyber incidents during this period?**

No.

If yes, please provide for each breach:

- 5. The type(s) of data affected (e.g. patient records, staff information)**

N/A.

The specific impacts of each breach, categorised as follows (where applicable):

- **Loss of patient data**
- **Loss of staff data**
- **Disruption to patient services (please specify which services, if known)**
- **Disruption to operational processes**
- **Financial impact (e.g. cost of recovery, penalties, compensation, etc.)**
- **Other impacts – please specify**

N/A.

Current cyber security measures (as of date of request)

- 6. Please list all cyber security measures and protocols currently in place across the Trust.**

These may include, but are not limited to:

- **Cyber insurance (including provider and coverage if available)**
- **Internal and external firewall systems**
- **Use of multi-factor authentication (MFA) for user accounts**
- **Access control systems for sensitive data and critical systems**
- **Anti-virus and anti-malware protection**
- **Cyber security training or awareness programmes for employees**
- **Regular penetration testing or security audits (please specify frequency)**
- **Existence and status of an incident response plan (e.g. last updated date)**

This information is exempt under Section 31 of the FOI Act for the following reasons: The Trust like any organisation may be subject to cyber-attacks and, since it holds large amounts of sensitive, personal and confidential information, maintaining the security of this information is extremely important. Cyber-attacks, which may amount to criminal offences for example under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 or the Data Protection Act 1998, are rated as a Tier 1 threat by the UK Government.

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 'Garry Harris', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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, Wroughtington, 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