

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/2025/11017

Date Received: 19th August 2025

Response Due: 17th September 2025

Date: 17th September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 19th August 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. I would like to know how many patients with a referral for suspected cancer are currently waiting for an appointment. If possible I would like this broken down into the type of cancer.**

Breast = 106.

Lower GI = 122.

Gynaecology = 61.

Haematology = 3.

Head and Neck = 53.

Lung = 7.

Skin = 98.

Upper GI = 9.

Urology = 21.

Other = 4.

The above information is based on patients awaiting their first appointment and is based on 2WW patients.

- 2. I would like to know the longest someone has currently been on the waiting list after being referred with a possible cancer diagnosis, and I would like to know the type of cancer they are suspected to have.**

Colorectal – longest waiter currently 288 days.

- 3. For people that have been diagnosed I would like to know the average wait time for treatment to begin. If possible I would like this broken down into a type of cancer. I would like this data for 2021/22, 2022/23, 23/24 and 25 years to date.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

- 4. For people who have had a cancer diagnosis I would like to know, currently, what is the longest someone has been waiting for treatment and the cancer they have been diagnosed with.**

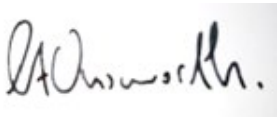
Colorectal – longest waiter currently 99 days.

- 5. For the years 2021/22, 2022/23, 23/24 and 25 years to date I would like to know how many patients have passed away while waiting to start treatment for their cancer diagnosis.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

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,



Lee Unsworth
Senior Directorate Manager for Radiology, Cancer Services and Pathology

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, Wroughton, 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