

**Wrightington, Wigan and
Leigh Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
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Ref: FOI/2025/11084

Date Received: 23rd September 2025

Response Due: 21st October 2025

Date: 21st October 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

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

General Information

- 1. The total number of radiology scans performed at NHS hospitals in the last 12 months, broken down by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine scans).**
CT = 51,538.
MRI = 34,434.
Nuclear Medicine = 3,771.
- 2. A detailed breakdown of the scans performed by body part for each of the above modalities (For example CT head, MRI Spine, bone scan etc) at each trust.**
Please see the attached.
- 3. The total number of outsourced scans for reporting purposes, categorized by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine) for each hospital / trust.**
Outsourced between 01/10/2024 and 30/09/2025.
MRI = 9,009.
CT = 22,031.
Nuclear Medicine = 564.

Outsourcing and Teleradiology

4. Whether any radiology scans are outsourced to external providers by the hospitals.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Trust the information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following link: <https://www.wvl.nhs.uk/what-we-spend-and-how-we-spend-it>.

Please scroll down to "Insourcing/Outsourcing Providers" on the above link and select "Insourcing and Outsourcing costs".

5. The percentage of scans outsourced for each modality, if applicable at each hospital.

This information is not centrally recorded.

6. The names of the external providers contracted for outsourced radiology reporting to each NHS hospital.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Trust the information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following link: <https://www.wvl.nhs.uk/what-we-spend-and-how-we-spend-it>.

7. The cost per scan for outsourced services, broken down by modality and body part.

This information is being withheld under Section 43 of the FOI Act. Please see the below.

Financial Information

8. The total expenditure on outsourced radiology reporting services in the last financial year per trust.

The total value of outsourced radiology reporting during 2024-25 is £1,870,281.

9. Whether there are fixed pricing agreements between teleradiology providers and the hospitals, and if so, the details of these agreements to include start and finish dates and the cost in pounds.

No.

Contracts and Agreements

10. Any active contracts the hospitals have with teleradiology companies, including:

a. The names of the contracted providers.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Trust the information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following link: <https://www.wvl.nhs.uk/what-we-spend-and-how-we-spend-it>.

b. The start and end dates of the contracts.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Trust the information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following link: <https://www.wvl.nhs.uk/what-we-spend-and-how-we-spend-it>.

c. The performance or quality metrics outlined in the contracts.

Reporting is targeted to be delivered within 95% of the requested turnaround time.

Backlogs and Reporting Times

11. The current backlog for radiology scan reporting, broken down by modality and body part at each NHS trust.

No current backlog.

12. The average reporting time for in-house radiology scans, categorized by modality.

The average varies due to patient category and urgency; therefore, the Trust cannot provide an exact time. All scans are reported within the KPI's.

13. The average reporting time for outsourced scans.

Approximately 72 hours depending on the body part and urgency.

14. Whether specific modalities or body parts have more significant backlogs.

No.

Additional Details

15. Any delays in reporting radiology scans over the last 12 months and the primary causes of such delays.

Yes, due to Maternity leave and annual leave for Radiologists.

16. Whether the hospital has plans to reduce reliance on outsourcing for radiology reporting, and if so, the details of these strategies.

Yes, recruitment and radiology reporting.

Section 43(2) – Commercial interests

Information regarding the cost per scan has been withheld under section 43(2) of the FOIA if its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

Section 43 of the FOIA is a qualified exemption and is subject to the Prejudice Test and the Public Interest Test.

Prejudice test

We confirm that we have carried out a full prejudice test and that, on the balance of probability, the Trust's interests would be prejudiced in the event of disclosure. Therefore, we confirm that the Prejudice Test is engaged.

Public interest test

We have also carried out the Public Interest Test to ascertain whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the public interest in withholding the requested information:

Public interest in disclosure of the information:

- We acknowledge that there is public interest in transparency around how the Trust engages with suppliers and procurement.
- We acknowledge that there is public interest in the Trust's finances.

Public interest in withholding of the information:

- Protecting public finances – As a public authority, the Trust must ensure that it obtains the best value for money. Disclosure of the information would be likely to affect the quality of future offers provided to the Trust. It is therefore firmly in the public interest not to disclose any information which would affect commercial offers made to the Trust, which in turn will affect the Trust's finances.
- Ensuring fair competition – Information provided to the Trust during the procurement process contains sensitive competition information. It is not in the public interest to disclose information which would affect free and fair competition.
- Transparency – We understand that there is public interest in how the Trust engages with providers. However, we consider that the information held by the Trust would not significantly further the public understanding of its relationship with these suppliers beyond what has already been disclosed in this response.
- Reputation damage or loss of confidence - It is firmly in the public interest that the Trust takes all steps to protect its reputation around information handling. It is not in the public interest to do anything which would jeopardise our ability to maintain strong working relationships with third parties.

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,



Hazel Hendriksen
Divisional Director of Operations for Specialist Services

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