



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/2025/11212

Date Received: 7th November 2025

Response Due: 5th December 2025

Date: 17th November 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 7th November 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

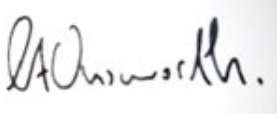
In your request you asked:

- 1. Does your Trust hold a record or inventory of medical-grade freezer units used for the storage of biological, histopathology, research, or biobanking tissue samples?**
 - A. If yes, please provide the (a) number of units and (b) storage temperature category (for example -20°C, -80°C)**
- 2. Are any of these freezer units currently used for the rapid freezing and/or long-term storage of brain tissue samples?**
 - A. If yes, please state (a) the number of units used for brain tissue and (b) the typical storage temperature used.**
- 3. Regardless of current use, does the Trust have freezer units capable of supporting fresh- or flash- frozen brain tissue storage that is suitable for therapeutic development.**
 - A. Does the Trust currently have access to rapid freezing equipment suitable for brain tissue?**
- 4. Only if feasible within the FOI time and cost limit, please indicate whether any existing freezer unit in the Trust could be repurposed or shared between departments to enable brain tissue storage or expand current capacity.**

The Trust does not hold this information as we do not biopsy or treat brain cancer patients. Please redirect your questions to Salford Royal at FreedomofInformationRequests@nca.nhs.uk.

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 'Lee Unsworth', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Lee Unsworth
Directorate Manager – Radiology, Cancer Services & 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, 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