

# 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](mailto:foi@wwl.nhs.uk)

Web: [www.wwl.nhs.uk](http://www.wwl.nhs.uk)

Ref: FOI/2024/9938

Date Received: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Response Due: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 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:

**1. How many NHS staff are on leave for mental health issues and/or sickness between the 12/06/23 and 12/06/24**

There were 5,579 staff who had a sickness episode recorded within the period 12/06/23 and 12/06/24. This is inclusive of all sickness absence reasons, including anxiety / stress / depression / other psychiatric illnesses.

**a. Of those absentees, can you provide the 20 most prevalent reasons for sickness absences?**

- Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses
- Other known causes - not elsewhere classified
- Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza
- Other musculoskeletal problems
- Gastrointestinal problems
- Injury, fracture
- Pregnancy related disorders
- Back Problems
- Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders
- Chest & respiratory problems
- Infectious diseases
- Benign and malignant tumours, cancers
- Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems
- Ear, nose, throat (ENT)
- Headache / migraine

- Nervous system disorders
- Eye problems
- Unknown causes / Not specified
- Skin disorders
- Dental and oral problems

**b. On any given day, on average how many staff are absent from work for sickness absences?**  
On average, there are 401 members of staff absent due to sickness per day.

**c. Can you provide a breakdown of what staff group had the most absences for sickness between 12/06/23 and 12/06/24**

Nursing and Midwifery staff group had the most FTE days absent in respect of sickness during this period.

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,



Juliette Tait  
Chief People 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