

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4928

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
Hermitage Lane  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME16 9QQ

Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

27 September 2018

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to MRI scans and obesity.

*You asked:*

*a) How many MRI scans were aborted for reasons related to the patient being too large or heavy to use the scanner for each of the last three financial years (April 1 2015 - March 31 2016, April 1 2016 - March 31 2017, April 1 2017 - March 31 2018) and between April 2018 and the current date if recorded.*

*b) i) Has your you trust purchased extra-large scanners (if information held) ? (The hole size of standard scanner measures 68cm (26in) and some hospitals put a 25-stone (158kg) limit on patients using them.)*

*ii) How much money was spent purchasing these extra-large scanners (if information held)?*

Trust response:

a) We have had to abort approximately 10 patients per year due to increased body habitus.

b) We have not purchased any larger scanners but we do have contracts with external providers who use Wide Bore scanners. We therefore refer to them if we know in advance that this will be needed and certainly once a patient has failed their MRI here.

c) We are not charged anything extra to refer to these scanners.