

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6197

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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 Ophthalmology and eye departments.

You asked:

- 1. What was the annual budget for the Trust's ophthalmology and eye departments in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 2. How many patients were treated by the Trust's ophthalmology and eye department's outpatient clinics in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 3. How many patients treated by the Trust's ophthalmology and eye department's outpatient clinics were treated for complications arising from refractive surgery in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 4. How many patients treated by the Trust's ophthalmology and eye department's outpatient clinics were treated for complications arising from contact lens wear in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 5. Of all the patients treated by the Trust's ophthalmology and eye departments' outpatient clinics, what percentage were treated for complications arising from contact lens wear in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 6. How many of the Trust's patients had cataract surgery in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 7. What were the average waiting times from point of referral to being listed for cataract surgery in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 8. What were the average waiting times from point of referral to undergoing first eye cataract surgery in each of the last 5 financial years?*
- 9. How many patients are currently waiting to have cataract surgery?*
- 10. What number and percentage of patients that have a cataract procedure on their first eye go on to have a cataract procedure on their second eye within six months of the first in each of the last five financial years?*

11. What number and percentage of patients that have a cataract procedure on their first eye go on to have a cataract procedure on their second eye within twelve months of the first in each of the last five financial years?
12. What percentage of patients have a cataract procedure performed on each of their two eyes (bilateral procedure) on the same day during each of the last five financial years?

Trust response:

1.

Ophthalmology department expenditure budget

2019/20	£15,519,975
2018/19	£12,715,774
2017/18	£13,525,569
2016/17	£11,018,943
2015/16	£7,736,466 *

The lower figure in 15/16 related to a different accounting arrangement for reporting Patient Activity related income.

2.

contract_year	NEW	FOLLOW-UP	Total
2016/17	26,450	81,278	107,728
2017/18	24,820	69,432	94,252
2018/19	24,683	64,697	89,380
2019/20	23,002	60,450	83,452

3. The Trust PAS does not hold that level of information and as such we cannot report in that detail.

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6.

contract_year	Q6 - Total Cataracts
2016/17	4,173
2017/18	3,445
2018/19	3,417
2019/20	3,846

7. The Trust cannot give you the specific waiting times for cataracts as we do not subspecialise our data in that way but we can give you the average waiting time from GP Referral to OP New Appointment.

Financial Year	Total
2016/2017	7.5 weeks
2017/2018	9.5 weeks
2018/2019	12.2 weeks
2019/2020	14.5 weeks

8.

31st March end of year position	Number of patients waiting for a cataract procedure (first or second eye)	Sum of RTT waits in days*	Average wait per patient (days)
2015-2016	740	40,704	55
2016-2017	868	54,020	62
2017-2018	766	72,778	95
2018-2019	1,198	128,019	107
2019-2020	857	98,478	115

*The waiting time is based upon the Referral to Treatment (RTT) incomplete pathways waiting for an inpatient cataract procedure as at year end. Please note that due to the way the Trust holds the data, and contrary to the request, we have not discounted second eye cataract procedures and this data includes patients waiting for both first and second eye surgery.

9. On 4th August 2020 the Trust recorded 789 patients waiting on Referral To Treatment (RTT) ophthalmology pathways where the patient is on the inpatient waiting list for a cataract procedure.

10.

contract_year	Q10 - 2nd Cataract <6mths	
2016/17	832	19.9%
2017/18	787	22.8%
2018/19	442	12.9%
2019/20	783	20.4%

11.

contract_year	Q11 - 2nd Cataract <1yr	
2016/17	863	20.7%
2017/18	971	28.2%
2018/19	915	26.8%
2019/20	1,260	32.8%

12. The Trust PAS does not hold that level of information and as such we cannot report in that detail.