

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8893

**Please reply to:**  
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Trust Management  
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20 May 2024

### **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 weight limit for services.

*You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.*

- 1. The number of patients sent to an alternative provider because they exceeded the weight limit for MRI scans, CT scans or weighing scales within your hospital(s) in 2023.*
- 2. The number of patients sent to an alternative provider because they exceeded the weight limit for MRI scans, CT scans or weighing scales within your hospital(s) in 2022.*
- 3. The names of the alternative providers used by your hospital(s) for CT scans, MRI scans and weighing scales for patients who exceed the weight limit for equipment within your hospital(s).*
- 4. How many patients have been sent to each alternative provider in the last two years because they exceed the weight limit for MRI scans, CT scans or weighing scales.*
- 5. Why doesn't the hospital have facilities to weigh these patients?*
- 6. How much does referral of patients who exceed the weight limit for equipment at your hospital(s) to alternative providers cost your hospital(s) per annum for the previous two financial years?*
- 7. How many requests for CT scans, MRI scans and weighing of patients have been declined by your hospital(s) in the last two years because patients have exceeded the weight limits for equipment.*

Trust response:

1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 7.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding, the Trust has been liaising with various departments to try and identify a way of extracting the requested information.

This information is not held in a reportable format. Referrals for imaging at alternative sites are done directly from the clinical teams. It may be possible that this information has been entered into the patient record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

5. The Scales the Trust purchase have a Maximum Weight Limit of 250kg (39.368261 stone) or 300kg (47.2419 stone). All our scales are to Class III Approved Medical Standard.