

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 9051

**Please reply to:**  
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11 June 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 Logistical robots in healthcare environments.

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

- 1. Does your organisation employ or utilise the use of logistical robots, or advanced equipment that can assist in operational tasks in a healthcare setting?*
- 2. Was the installation of the robot(s) part of the hospital's development (as a new build, refurbishment, department enhancement, renovation, etc.) or a dedicated retrofit?*
- 3. When planning the use of robots, could you please tell us of any design decision(s) or adjustment(s) needed, if any, that was made to the hospital infrastructure and building design to enable their use? (E.g. installation of automatic doors, dedicated FM routes, adjustment to lifts etc.)*
- 4. What were the main intentions behind the decision to implement the robot(s)? What evidence-based factors supported the decision to implement the robot(s) i.e., savings projection?*
- 5. Please only answer these questions if you are unable to answer Question 1-4*
- 6. Please could contact details be provided of anyone within the Trust who would be willing to take part in a more detailed discussion about automating logistical processes?*

Trust response:

1. Cleaning or disinfecting robot (vacuuming, mopping, scrubbing, UV disinfecting, etc.)

Scrubbing and Mopping

Manufacturer : Lionsbot

Model : LeoBot  
 Year of installation : May 2021  
 Generation : First/ Second/ Third/ Others

2.

Type of Robot	Planned	Retrofit
Floor Cleaning and Scrubbing Machine	To Support with cleaning during Covid	

3. No Adjustments were needed as the units were operated independently through the Tablet.

4. The decision to implement the robots was primarily aimed at supporting staff by reducing the physical workload, especially during the increased service demands brought about by Covid. Additionally, since the robots could operate independently, they contributed to cost savings by eliminating the need for supervision or allocating additional staff to the task. This freed up staff to complete additional cleans and touchpoints without incurring additional costs or effort.

Type of Robot	Purpose of Use
Leo Bots (Floor Cleaning and Scrubbing Robot)	<p><i>Choose all that apply</i></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Easing staff physical workload <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increasing efficiency of task <input type="checkbox"/> Repurposing staff time for patient-centric tasks <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing human error <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maximising working hours <input type="checkbox"/> Others, please explain below_____
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Type of Robot	Impacts
Leobot ( Floor Cleaning and Scrubbing Robot)	<p><b><i>How does it serve its purpose? Are benefits realised in time and labour saving and operational efficiency?</i></b></p> <p>The system generally serves its purpose by aiding in time and labour-saving efforts and improving operational efficiency. While it has demonstrated benefits in these areas, there are occasional delays and manual interventions required, which may impact overall efficiency. However, when functioning</p>

	<p>optimally, the system contributes to significant time and labour savings and enhances operational efficiency</p> <p><b><i>Is the system reliable? Is there a high uptime and is maintenance manageable?</i></b></p> <p>The system is generally reliable, with most functions operating smoothly. However, there are instances where manual intervention from the operator is necessary, resulting in occasional delays and increased workload. Additionally, there have been delays in the company's responsiveness to resolving issues as they arise</p> <p><b><i>How does it affect its surrounding?</i></b></p> <p>The robot aids in cleaning and has minimal to no adverse effects on its surroundings.</p> <p><b><i>How do the staff and patient interact with it?</i></b></p> <p>The staff have provided both positive and negative feedback regarding the robot. Some of the functions around the robot are challenging for them to complete, resulting in the need for manual intervention. However, patient feedback has consistently been positive, particularly regarding the interactive features that children in the ward enjoy</p> <p><b><i>Are you considering the continuity or increased use of this type of robot?</i></b></p> <p>The decision has been made to discontinue the use of the robot due to financial cost pressures.</p>
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5. Not applicable.

6. Not applicable.