

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PATHOLOGY CASE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to pathology cases.

Question:

1. How many histology cases were reported by consultant histopathologists for patients treated by the trust. If exact numbers are not available, an estimate to within 5% is acceptable, but please state whether exact numbers or estimates are given. Cytology should be included separately:

Answer:

Histology cases reported by Pathology are:	
2021/22	54,352
2022/23	53,991
2023/24	56,591

Cytology cases reported by Pathologists are:	
2021/22	5381
2022/23	5703
2023/24	5884

Question:

2. Of these cases how many were reported by:
 - a.Consultants employed by the trust working in their normal NHS programmed activity sessions
 - b.Consultants employed by the trust being paid for additional sessions
 - c.Consultants employed by the trust being paid an amount per slide or case for activity outside their contracted programmed activities
 - d.Consultants employed by other trusts, where the trust contracts with these consultants or their trust
 - e.Backlogs Limited
 - f.Unilabs
 - g.Source Bioscience
 - h.Cellular Pathology Services Limited
 - i.Other private histology providers (please specify which)

Answer:

A.	N/A we don't have this break down
B.	N/A we don't have this break down
C.	N/A we don't have this break down
D.	N/A
E.	N/A
F.	N/A
G. Source Bioscience:	2021/22 – 335 2022/23 – 2659 2023/24 - 2489
H.	N/A
I.	N/A

Question:

3. What was the spend in GBP in 2021/22, 2022 /23 and 2023/24 with each of the following in relation to the reporting of histology slides/ cases

- a.Consultants employed by the trust being paid for additional sessions
- b.Consultants employed by the trust being paid an amount per slide or case for activity outside their contracted programmed activities
- c.Consultants employed by other trusts, where the trust contracts with these consultants or their trust
- d.Backlogs Limited
- e.Unilabs
- f.Source / LD Path
- g.Cellular Pathology Services Limited (CPS)

Answer:

A: Consultants employed by the trust being paid for additional sessions	2021/22 – £234,809.88 2022/23 – £236,161.48 2023/24 – £284,496.88
B.	N/A
C.	N/A
D.	N/A
E.	N/A
F: Source Bioscience	2021/22 – £120,000 2022/23 – £150,000 2023/24 – £156,000
G.	N/A
H.	N/A
I.	N/A

Question:

4. How much was spent in 2021/22, 2022 /23 and 2023/24 with each of the following in relation to the reporting of histology cases.

Answer:

See answers to Q3 above as seems the same question but slightly different wording.

Question:

5. (a) How many WTE Consultant Grade Pathologists should the Trust have in the Histology Department and (b) how many does the Trust have? (c) how many vacancies does the Trust currently have for consultant pathologists and in what sub-specialities are these vacancies. If "general" please state

Answer:

A.	30.
B.	27.
C.	Three vacancies. Dermatopathology (with other speciality to be confirmed), Paediatric and Perinatal, General with interest in any of Molecular Pathology, Renal and Gynae preferred.

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
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Cc: Chief Executive