

FOI 0529/2024 Response

Dear Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

For the last 3 tax year's (23/22, 22/21, 21/20) please provide the total cost of:

- 1. Total number of staff hired with responsibility for freedom of information requests, (full time equivalent) .**

For the requested time period, please note that the administration of FOIs at the Trust is the responsibility of the Trust's Information Governance Team.

There are 3 WTE staff members within the Information Governance Team whose roles include supporting the administration of FOIs. Please note that all 3 staff members cover other information governance responsibilities, as well as FOIs.

The grades of these staff are a Band 8d, Band 8b and Band 4.

Regarding the portfolio of the staff member at Band 8d, please note that in addition to Information Governance, their portfolio also includes two other areas of responsibility.

- 2. Total salary costs for staff with responsibility for freedom of information requests.**

The Trust is unable to provide the requested information as it pertains to personal information which we do not routinely release.

However, we can provide a link to the agenda for change which lists the pay scale for each of the mentioned banding.

Link: [Pay scales for 2023/24 | NHS Employers](#)

- 3. Total for all other costs associated with handling freedom of information requests.**

NIL (0) for the requested time period.

- 4. Total number of freedom of information requests received, and total number responded with the requested information.**

Please note the following:

- Data has been provided in line with financial years, starting from 1st April to 31st March.
- Data for the 'Number of FOI requests' includes requests that are on pause (when the Trust has sought clarification and awaiting a response in order to proceed in answering the request), and requests that were withdrawn at a later date by the Requester.

- The 'Total number responded with the requested Information' explicitly includes all completed FOI requested, where a response has been provided.
- Requests that are on pause (when the Trust has sought clarification and awaiting a response in order to proceed in answering the request), and requests that were withdrawn at a later date by the Requester have been omitted from the 'Total number responded with the requested information'.
- There has been NIL refused requests.

Financial year	Number of FOI Requests	Total number responded with the requested information.
2020/2021	353	340
2021/2022	355	328
2022/2023	372	310