

Trust Headquarters  
 Russell's Hall Hospital  
 Dudley  
 West Midlands  
 DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-012024-000538

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Request**

I am writing to you under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request specific information related to your organisation's ICT testing practices. This information is requested for academic research purposes. My questions are as follows:

- 1. Do you have a dedicated ICT test team?**
- 2. Do you outsource project testing?**
- 3. Do you outsource BAU testing?**
- 4. Do you test core functions (not just key applications) before releasing your regular Operating System patches and updates to the ICT estate?**
- 5. Do you test your new End User Devices and peripherals before deploying to the ICT estate?**
- 6. Would you consider using an independent Testing as a Service (TaaS) option? If not, please explain why.**

**Response**

<b>1. Do you have a dedicated ICT test team?</b>	Yes
<b>2. Do you outsource project testing?</b>	No, we use our internal test team.
<b>3. Do you outsource BAU testing?</b>	No – this is carried out using our internal test team, systems team, and endpoint team.
<b>4. Do you test core functions (not just key applications) before releasing your regular Operating System patches and updates to the ICT estate?</b>	Yes, these are tested internally prior to deployment.
<b>5. Do you test your new End User Devices and peripherals before deploying to the ICT estate?</b>	Yes
<b>6. Would you consider using an independent Testing as a Service (TaaS) option? If not, please explain why.</b>	Not at present as this is resourced internally due to the continuous demand.

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If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager  
Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.dpo@nhs.net)

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**