

Trust Headquarters
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-042025-0001558

Date: 9.6.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the provision of spirometry services within The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. I would appreciate details on the following:

1. Service Provision

1. Does the Trust currently provide spirometry services in-house, or are these services outsourced/insourced to external providers? – **In house**
2. If outsourced or insourced, which providers are currently contracted, and under what terms? – **N/A**
3. What are the eligibility criteria for external providers seeking subcontracting opportunities? – **N/A**

2. Tariff and Payment Model

1. What is the current tariff for spirometry services under the NHS Payment System?
- **If spirometry is performed in a clinical diagnostic centre then the Trust can charge £95 (plus MFF) per test. If spirometry is performed in the hospital on direct access patients then the tariff is also £95 plus MFF. If spirometry is performed on hospital patients who didn't come via a direct access route then there is no tariff price for this.**
2. Is the service funded per test, per patient, or under a block contract arrangement?
- **Mixture, for the reasons above**
3. Does the Trust claim reimbursement for spirometry under any specific national or local NHS payment schemes?
- **This activity forms part of a group of activities which currently have no clear national guidance on whether they are fixed block or local tariff variable. Currently in negotiation with host commissioner.**

3. Demand, Capacity, and Backlogs

1. How many spirometry tests were conducted annually in the last three years?

Date Range 01/01/2022 - 31/12/2024

Spirometry tests

Year	Total Test
2022	276
2023	345
2024	379
Grand Total	1,000

2. What is the current backlog of patients awaiting spirometry testing? - **15 patients waiting to be booked.**
3. What is the average waiting time from referral to test? - **Average 3 months waiting time**
4. Has the Trust implemented any initiatives to address spirometry service backlogs?
- **No**

4. Procurement

1. Who is responsible for commissioning or procuring spirometry services within the Trust, e.g., insourcing, outsourcing or subcontracting spirometry services.
- **Trust procurement department would lead the process for procuring services**
2. Are there any planned tenders or procurement exercises for spirometry services in the next 12-24 months? - **No**
3. What are the Trust's criteria for subcontracting spirometry services to external providers?
- **Procurement would be contacted by the service to undertake required tender exercises.**

5. Key Contact Information

1. The name, role, telephone number, and email address of the individuals responsible for spirometry service insourcing, outsourcing, subcontracting, or service management within the Trust.
- **Lewis Kidd, Directorate Manager Lewis.kidd2@nhs.net 01384 456111**
2. If there are any policies or documents relevant to the commissioning or provision of spirometry services, I would appreciate copies or links to them.
- **No documents specifically relating to the commissioning or provision of spirometry services**

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

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

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

FOI/REF FOI-

Yours sincerely

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