

Title MRI Imaging - scans 2023 - Mobile units & Total Machines

Reference Number: RDF2246-24

Date of Response: 19/02/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Please may I make the following Freedom of Information request of your Trust:

1. *For the calendar year of 2023, please could you tell me how many individual MRI examinations were performed overall?*
2. *For the calendar year of 2023, please could you give a breakdown of the individual MRI examinations performed into body part/area? For instance, how many brain scans, spine scans etc. I am happy with whichever body part description is input in the PACS system.*

Please see below for Trust response to questions 1 and 2.

Site	Total
Abdomen	9415
Ankle	411
Arm	100
Chest	2365
Elbow	92
Feet	360
Forearm	53
Groin	3804
Hand	133
Head	10642
Hips	349
Knee	1826
Legs	460
Lower Legs	131
Neck	2145
NULL	183
Shoulder	588
Wrist	225

3. *As of the start of 2024, what would the waiting time be (in weeks) for a routine MRI scan (for example how long would a patient have to wait if they were referred for a routine MRI scan of their knee)?*

Trust response: Average RDUH waiting time for Routine MRI scan at week ending 07/01/2024 = 6.6 Weeks (Data extracted from National Waiting List minimum dataset weekly submission).

4. *How much money was paid to private companies during the calendar year 2023 for the outsourcing of MRI either to mobile MRI units, private hospitals or private companies staffing hospital scanners to scan NHS patients?*

*Section 43 (2) Commercial Exemption.

The Trust holds this information. This information is commercially sensitive, and its release would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For non - Disclosure

Excluded under Section 43 because releasing the costs of contracts would give potential suppliers an unfair advantage over other bidders when bidding for future work. That advantage would contravene the principle of fairness required from the Trust in Regulation 18 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The release of contract values would undermine the Trust's suppliers' competitiveness in the market and breach the Trust's contracts with suppliers, which typically require contract values to be kept confidential.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For Disclosure

The Trust understand the need for openness and accountability for tender processes and price, and it recognises the need for value of money.

In applying the exemption under Section 43(2) the Freedom of Information Act the Trust has balanced the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. The Trust has considered all the relevant factors in the public interest test and concluded that the benefit to the public in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in releasing the information requested as a result of the prejudices and losses that would potentially affect the Trust and patients. As such this information is being withheld under Section 43 (2).

5. a, *from question 4 which companies were used.*

Eastern Service answer: Alliance Medical (1 MRI)/ Medneo (1MRI)/ Agito (1 MRI) for staffed scanning solutions: Medica and 4Ways for outsourced reports.

Northern Service: Inhealth

- b, *how many patients were scanned?*

Eastern service: 12,055 Patients scanned on Agito, Medneo and Alliance Medical scanners.

Northern Service: 4711 patients were scanned.

6. *How many MRI scanners does the Trust own?*

Eastern Service answer: Two.

Northern Service: One.

7. *From question 6 could I please have the manufacturer, model, and date of installation of the MRI scanners?*

Eastern Service answer: MR1: Siemens Avanto Fit 12/6/2017/ MR2: Siemens Avanto Fit 2/11/2017.

Northern Service answer: Siemens Avanto Fit 2020