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**King's Mill Hospital**  
Mansfield Road  
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NG17 4JL

**10<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

Tel: 01623 622515  
Join today: [www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk](http://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk)

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference:** Clinical  
Biochemistry / Chemical Pathology and / or Toxicology workload

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. Please find the Trusts response below.

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## FOI Request / Question

	<b>Clinical Biochemistry and Toxicology FOI</b>					
	As part of data collection, we are also collecting workload that your trust or group practice received in the last 6 years.					
	<b>We ask that 1 representative or head per service complete the survey to ensure consistency.</b>					
#	Question	Response				
1	Could you please provide the estimated population served by your trust or health board	E.g. 12,000				
		Drop down list				
2	Which description best fits your organisation?					
3	If your Trust service and/or hospital is in England, please list the network are you involved with? If none, put 'n/a'	Text				

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	<b>Clinical Biochemistry</b> - This section is for Clinical Biochemistry only						
	<b>If your Trust, health board or organisations does not provide Clinical Biochemistry service, please disregard this section.</b>						
4	Approximately how many samples has your department received in the last 6 years?	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	Analysed Locally	<i>E.g. 12</i>					
	Referred						
5	Is your trust responsible and/or do they cover any other laboratory, if so, how many laboratories? <b>If this is not applicable to you, please put "N/A"</b>	<i>E.g. 12 or N/A</i>					
6	Approximately what percentage does your department spend on the following work areas per week? : <b>Percentage for all relevant work areas for your department should total to 100%</b>						

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	Laboratory testing i.e. Diagnostic and quality control		E.g. 12.5%			
	Laboratory management i.e. personnel issues		E.g. 12.5%			
	Patient interaction (indirect)		E.g. 12.5%			
	Data interpretation i.e. results analysis, clinical decision support		E.g. 12.5%			
	Research and development i.e. Clinical research and evidence review		E.g. 12.5%			
	Teaching (University/hospital training)		E.g. 12.5%			
	Consultation and advisory roles i.e. medical consultation		E.g. 12.5%			
	Regulatory and ethical compliance		E.g. 12.5%			
	Other work areas not listed... (include percentage)					
	<b>Toxicology</b> - This section is for Toxicology only					
	<b>If your Trust, health board or organisations does not provide Toxicology services, please disregard this section.</b>					
7	Which tests/samples do you receive and/or perform, select all that apply:					

	In Vitro Tests (Test Tube/Cell-Based)						
	In Vivo Tests (Animal Studies)						
	Analytical Chemistry Tests Human Biomonitoring (Clinical/Forensic)						
	Human Biomonitoring (Clinical/Forensic)						
	Molecular and Mechanistic Studies						
8	Approximately how many samples has your department received in the last 6 years?	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	Total number of samples received	<i>E.g. 12,000</i>					
	Number of In Vitro Tests (Test Tube/Cell-Based), if applicable						
	Number of In Vivo Tests (Animal Studies), if applicable						
	Number of Analytical Chemistry Tests Human Biomonitoring (Clinical/Forensic), if applicable						
	Number of Molecular and Mechanistic Studies, if applicable						
	Other						

	Total number of samples referred						
		Drop down list					
9	Do any of your Toxicologists provide direct inpatient care?						
10	Approximately how many tests carried out by your department in the last 6 years?	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	Primary care	E.g. 12,000					
	Secondary care						

#### Question Response

Section 12 of the Act allows the Trust to refuse to deal with any requests where we estimate that responding to the request would exceed the cost limit. We have identified that answering these questions will exceed the cost limit. For public authorities the cost limit is £450 (18 hours). If responding to one part of a request would exceed the cost limit, we do not have to provide a response to any other parts of the request. Therefore, the estimated cost of processing your request is £3,000.00. This charge has been calculated in accordance with section 13 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information Fees Regulations.

In order to collate this information we would need write each query and then analyse the data. We have estimated that it would take in the region of 120hrs to complete this request. We estimate that the cost of satisfying your request will be £3,000.00 (120 hours x £25 per hour).

Under section 16 of the Act we are obliged to advise you to refine your request to narrow the scope in order to bring it within the appropriate limit. Can we suggest that the timescales for the questions are reduced, for example, to a calendar month. If the timescales are reduced to a month, the Trust will be able to respond to all of your questions. If you are unable to reduce the scope of the request the Trust will be unable to continue processing your request until the fee is paid. If you wish to proceed with this request the fee will need to be paid within three calendar months. If the fee is not received by this date, I shall take it that you do not wish to pursue this request and will consider the request closed.

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I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net](mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

### Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.