

Ref: FOI/2025/10540

Date Received: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Response Due: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025

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Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 19th February 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

## 1. Clinical & Financial Responsibilities

- **Who holds clinical accountability for the surgical hub's operations?**  
The divisional medical director and divisional director of nursing and AHP's.
- **Who holds financial accountability for the surgical hub's budget and procurement decisions?**  
The director of operations.
- **How is funding allocated between the hub and the wider trust?**  
The hubs are part of the divisional budgets they are part of.

## 2. Organisational Structure & Governance

- **Can you provide an organigram detailing the governance and reporting structure for the surgical hub?**  
Please see attached. There is also a divisional Governance Team and Governance Lead Consultant.
- **How does the surgical hub integrate with the broader Trust structure?**  
They are part of the divisional operational structures.
- **Are there any external partnerships (e.g., with independent providers or regional collaborations)?**  
Surgery – Service Level agreements in Plastics and Vascular and we do offer Mutual aid.

Specialist Services – Mutual aid provided to GM system, and supporting partnership with working local trusts. Service Level Agreements in place for Paediatrics, Vascular support, nerve conduction studies and major trauma centres.

### 3. Existing Scope of Practice

- **What surgical Urology, Gynaecology, General Surgery and ENT procedures are currently performed in the hub?**

Surgery division:

- General Surgery – laparoscopic cholecystectomy, hernias, minor lumps and bumps, cysts/lipomas
  - Urology – TURBTS, hydrocele, vasectomy, orchidectomy, circumcisions, ureteroscopy/stent, cystoscopy, TP biopsies
  - Gynae – Laparoscopic sterilisation, hysteroscopy, diagnostic laparoscopy, anterior/posterior repair, TOP's
  - ENT – not done at Leigh.
- **What are the inclusion/exclusion criteria for cases managed within the hub?**  
Please see the attached Leigh criteria and the attached T&O surgical hub acceptance criteria.
  - **Are there any service limitations due to staffing, infrastructure, or policy constraints?**  
Please see the attached criteria document.

### 4. Planned/Future Scope of Practice

- **Are there discussions around integrating additional specialties or increasing surgical capacity specifically in Urology, Gynaecology, General Surgery and ENT?**
  - Paediatrics at Leigh – ENT and Dental.
  - Gynaecology – looking to expand data case hysterectomy's – trailing at RAEI site with vision to move to Leigh.
  - Ophthalmology – increasing number of sessions and capacity by utilisation of topical drops for cataract surgery.
- **Are there any future workforce or equipment investments planned to support hub expansion?**
  - Paediatrics at Leigh staffing and equipment and ophthalmology staffing and equipment.
  - T&O – U/S equipment for PRP.
  - Increasing block only procedures via Ambulatory Unit, improving patient pathway experience.
  - Robotics.
  - New theatre suite supports better flow (turnaround) and thus will support activity model delivery (numbers per list).
  - Realignment of schedules on the back of new theatres, allows equipment not to be dispersed across site, helping day to day flow, surgeon assurance, and thus scheduling.
  - Minimal invasive surgery for Foot & Ankle, newly commenced.
  - Ambition to expand day case arthroplasty.

### 5. Success Metrics & Reporting Mechanisms

- **How is the hub's impact on elective recovery and patient outcomes measured?**  
Internal - elective recovery targets, improve access to health care, reduction of wait times for patients. Externally reform of elective care, surgical hub accreditation, GM mutual aid and system meetings.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we

will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicky Bateson', is positioned above a rectangular grey stamp.

Vicky Bateson  
Senior Directorate Manager - Division of Surgery

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111