

Freedom of Information Request**Ref: UHB 17-121**

Date 25 August 2017

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Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

- 1) **In the last 12 months, have you sub-contracted any surgical activity to non-NHS providers (e.g. providers such as Ramsay Health Care, Nuffield Health, BMI, Spire, Care UK)?**

Yes

- 2) **If yes, which kind of private providers were used to undertake such services? Please select which apply and the name of the sub-contracted companies which were used**

Type of provider	Provider type used?	Name of provider(s)
a. Private secondary hospitals	Y	Spire
b. Independent Sector Treatment Centre	N	Not applicable
c. Mobile Operating Theatre (such as those provided by Vanguard Healthcare)	N	Not applicable
d. Other [Please specify]	Y	SWES (limited liability partnership) and Prime (GP Practice)

- 3) **Please indicate what was the main cause of the need to sub-contract activity (please allocate an approximate % if multiple reasons)**

Cause	Approximate %
a. Reduce Trust waiting list	7% (Thoracic)
b. Lack of available Theatre Capacity (theatres fully utilised)	31% (Bowel Cancer)
c. Lack of available Theatre Capacity (1 or more theatres not operational due to refurbishment etc.)	Not applicable
d. Lack of available beds	Not applicable
e. Lack of Consultants	62% Prime Endo & SWES
f. Other [Please specify]	Not applicable

- 4) What were the major surgical specialities that were sub-contracted (e.g. Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology etc.) If possible, please provide an estimated % split by speciality of total sub-contracted spend

	Surgical specialty	Approximate spend %
1	Ophthalmology	51%
2	Bowel Cancer	31%
3	Endometriosis	11%
4	Thoracic	7%

- 5) How much was spent by the Trust on sub-contracted surgical activity over the last 12 months? Was this an increase, decrease or similar amount to the previous 12 months? If possible, please provide an estimation of this increase/ decrease (as a %)

Sub-Question	Answer
Amount spent by the Trust on sub-contracted surgical activity over the last 12 months	Nil
Increase, decrease or similar amount to the previous 12 months	Not applicable
Estimation of this increase/ decrease (as a %)	Not applicable

- 6) Do you currently have an operational Private Patient Unit?
If no, do you plan to open one in the next 12 months?

Sub-Question	Answer
Do you currently have an operational Private Patient Unit?	No
If no, do you plan to open one in the next 12 months?	No

- 7) If no, what is the reason that you have not opened a Private Patient Unit to date (please allocate an approximate % if multiple reasons)?

Reason	Approximate %
a. Lack of private patient population in region	
b. Not seen as a current priority as far as Trust strategy	100%
c. Lack of Trust capex to invest	
d. Lack of time to plan and build	
e. Concerned about the public relations impact of opening one	
f. Other (please specify)	

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, 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:

Trust Secretary
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.
If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

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