

FOI REF: 24/235

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1) **In the Board papers for the meeting held on the 14th June 2022 were a set of papers outlining Divisional Priorities within the Trust.**
  - a) **Can you please advise if there is a current set of papers outlining Divisional Priorities and please provide me with a copy.**

**Clarification was sought asking you to confirm if you mean the current financial year 2023/24 or do you mean 2024/25 and confirmation was received that you require the following:**

**I had hoped that the documents to which I referred as having been included in previous Board papers would have been updated as a matter of normal practice within the Trust and that a set of the last published documents would have been readily available to answer my request.**

**If no new versions of the documents have been published since those in the Board papers, then I would accept that nothing new was available.**

**However if it is intended that new documents will be published during financial year 2024/25 I would wait until the publication had taken place for my request to be answered.**

**It is never my expectation that I should ask for anything that involves additional extra effort beyond current practice and procedure and if I were ever to ask for something that involved extra effort then please let me know and we can either cancel or amend the request.**

**Trust, Divisional and Service priorities are set annually as part of business planning, within the framework of our respective Trust strategies, the ICS Shared Delivery Plan and in response to the NHS Long Term plan and annually set NHS Operating Framework.**

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Business planning is an annual process. The Divisional priorities for 2024/25 have not yet been finalised through that process.

The Trust's main strategic plans generally look circa 5 years ahead. Typically, these take several months to evidence, engage on and document in various forms. Trust strategies might be refreshed or reviewed regularly as part of normal practice but are not rewritten and republished each year.

In this year, however, we have reviewed our long-term vision in headline terms and 3-year strategic goals.

We have used that review to set Trust annual priorities and objectives and are in the process of using that framework to develop the Divisional annual priorities.

The latter will be taken to Trust Public Board within the next quarter and will be accessible by the public from that point.

- 2) The Board papers for the meeting held on the 8th February 2022 contained a set of Strategy documents.**
- a) Can you please advise if there exists a current set of Strategy Documents and if so please provide me with a copy.**

The Strategies referred to above are long term/5-year strategy documents. These Strategies will be refreshed – but for now they remain current.

- b) Alternatively if there is to be a set of Strategy documents published in the near future covering financial year 2024/25 then please advise the anticipated publication date.**

Currently no date for publication has been set.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department ([esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)