

FOI REF: 24/876

3rd January 2025

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

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:

Subject: Reporting of histology cases

1. For the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, please state which of the following arrangements were used for reporting histology cases which were not reported by employed or locum histopathologists during their contracted Programmed Activities (PAs). Please also state the amount spent in each category used.

	Method used (Y/N)	If yes, amount spent
a) Payment to own consultants for additional work outside contracted PAs	Y	£180,633
b) Payment directly to another Trust/ NHS provider, or consultants employed by another Trust/ NHS provider for reporting	Y	£20,000
c) Payment to a commercial company for reporting	Y	£1,193,552

2. How many whole-time equivalent histopathology consultants (as defined by being on the GMC specialist register for pathology) were employed by the authority at 31st March 2024:

Number of WTE histopathology consultants	5.9
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3.

Specialty	Total reported histology cases 1 st April 2023 to 31 st March 2024
Dermatology	8695
Gastro-intestinal	7524
Urology	1659
Gynaecology	6815
Breast	1769
Thoracic	390
Head and neck	3644
Other	1320
Total cases reported	31,816

4. How many of the total cases given above were reported by:

	Total reported histology cases 1 st April 2023 to 31 st March 2024
a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs.	15,599
b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work.	The Trust did not hold this information during this time. The Trust does retain this information now (since April 2024).
c. locum consultants working for the authority	Not applicable
d. external reporting companies. Please provide a total number of cases and the number reported by each of the following:	
- <i>Unilabs</i>	Not applicable
- <i>HCA Laboratories including their subsidiary Backlogs</i>	Not applicable
- <i>Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited)</i>	5,946
- <i>Cellular Pathology Services Limited</i>	Not applicable
- <i>Diagnexia</i>	10,271
- <i>Digital Pathology Partners</i>	Not applicable
- <i>Cyted (including their subsidiary Pathognomics)</i>	Not applicable
- <i>Poundbury Cancer Institute</i>	Not applicable
- <i>Medica</i>	Not applicable
External reporting companies total	16,217

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5. How much did the authority spend on each of the following during the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024:

	Amount spent 1 st April 2023 to 31 st March 2024
a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs. (salary plus NI plus pension contribution)	£964,521
b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work.	£180,633
c. locum consultants working for the authority	Not applicable
d. external reporting companies. Please provide a total number of cases and the number reported by each of the following:	Please see the response to Q4d.
- <i>Unilabs</i>	
- <i>HCA Laboratories including their subsidiary Backlogs</i>	
- <i>Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited)</i>	
- <i>Cellular Pathology Services Limited</i>	
- <i>Diagnexia</i>	
- <i>Digital Pathology Partners</i>	
- <i>Cyted (including their subsidiary Pathognomics)</i>	
- <i>Poundbury Cancer Institute</i>	
- <i>Medica</i>	
External reporting companies total	£1,193,552

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), 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