

**Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

1. Does the trust use dogs for any therapeutic or medicinal purposes (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance) within your hospitals or for patients at home? **NO. The therapy dog & dog handler is contracted from an external company used to enhance staff health and wellbeing, they do not work with patients/general public.**
2. If so, are these dogs engaged as part of the NHS or through an external organisation (such as Support Dogs charity). **We work with Therapy Huskies, a private organisation.**
3. Please could you specify how many dogs have been engaged for each of the last ten calendar years(2012-2022), broken down by purpose. (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance). **We have been working with Therapy Huskies for ten months. During this period, only one dog has been to the organisation. The purpose is to boost wellbeing and morale of the employees.**
4. Please list the main breeds used with the most commonly used breeds first. **Huskies**
5. How many full time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc) worked with these dogs for each of the years in the same period? **No employees from the Trust work with the dog. The provider, Therapy Huskies, handles the dog. They have one dog handler.**
6. What was the trust's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit? **33 visits = £4950.00.**