

Our Ref: 153
February 2024

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

I'd like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act on cancer treatment wait times at your trust.

For each of these questions I am looking for figures consistent with those used for the 62-day referral to treatment standard, i.e. how long in calendar days it took for a patient to start treatment after their referral for suspected cancer and diagnosis, as measured from the date of the urgent referral.

1. The number of patients who waited a) over 124 days (i.e. 4 months) and b) over 186 days (i.e. 6 months) between an urgent referral from their GP and starting their first treatment for cancer. Please can you provide figures for each of the past four calendar years (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020).

2. The single longest wait in days for a patient to start cancer treatment, as measured from the date of the urgent referral, in the 2023 calendar year?

This only reflects the Urgent GP to Treatment pathway treated within our organisation only and not reflecting any shared care pathways. The information reflects section 1 & 2 of the request

Year	Total number treated	Number treated over 124 days	Number treated over 186 days	Longest wait in days for treatment
2020	855	6	0	166 days
2021	1026	8	5	437 days
2022	1097	20	1	192 days
2023	1122	29	4	309 days

3. The current longest wait in days for a patient still waiting to start their cancer treatment, as measured from the date of urgent referral.

This data is difficult to ascertain as the patients currently with the longest waits do not have a definitive Cancer diagnosis. To ascertain this data, the Trust would need to perform an audit of each individual patient record, which wouldn't be achievable within the s.12 timescale of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.