

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I would appreciate it if you could send a copy of the Consultant oncall / call our procedure or policy.

The Trust does not have a standalone policy specifically titled Consultant On-call or Call-out Procedure. The responsibilities and arrangements for Consultant on-call duties are set out within individual job plans, departmental operational procedures, and service rotas, rather than in a single policy document.

If you wish to understand which Consultants are available out of hours, the on-call rota is coordinated through the hospital switchboard, which holds current information on which Consultants are on-call at any given time.

In addition, I would appreciate it if, under the Freedom of Information Act, you could provide the following information:

Doncaster Hospital

- How many Consultants are actually working within Doncaster Hospital, as a minimum, during the hours of 9am - 5pm on a Saturday? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant.

As a minimum, the following Consultant cover is available at Doncaster Royal Infirmary on a Saturday between 9am and 5pm:

- Emergency Department – 6 Consultants
- Acute Medicine – 2 Consultants
- Haematology
- Renal
- Respiratory
- Gastroenterology / Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Cardiology
- Care of the Elderly
- Stroke

- Vascular Surgery
- General Surgery – 2 Consultants
- Urology
- Paediatrics
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Radiology
- Interventional Radiology
- Anaesthetics – 2 Consultants
- Intensive Care – 2 Consultants
- ENT
- Orthopaedics
- Microbiology / Infection

- How many Consultants are actually working within Doncaster Hospital, as a minimum, during the hours of 9am - 5pm on a Sunday? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant.

Sunday daytime cover is the same as for Saturday.

- How many Consultants are available to be contacted to provide urgent advice remotely or onsite at Doncaster Hospital, on a Saturday (24hrs)? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant that is on-call

All of the specialties listed above, except Cardiology, provide 24/7 on-call cover. Gastroenterology, Diabetes & Endocrinology, Respiratory, and Care of the Elderly combine into a single 24/7 General Internal Medicine on-call rota. There is also a dedicated Gastrointestinal (GI) bleed rota providing 12-hour cover on Saturdays and Sundays.

- How many Consultants are available to be contacted to provide urgent advice remotely or onsite at Doncaster Hospital, on a Sunday (24hrs)? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant that is on-call

Sunday cover is the same as Saturday

- For oncall Consultants, for each weekend between 1st April and 30th June how many times were the on-call Consultants called into Doncaster Royal Infirmary to assess or treat patients?

The Trust does not hold the requested information. While on-call Consultant rotas are managed within the Trust, details of individual call-outs (such as the number of times a Consultant was required to physically attend the hospital during an on-call period) are not systematically recorded.

Call-out data is not captured on HealthRota or any other central system. Therefore, under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we can confirm that this information is not held.

Bassetlaw Hospital

These questions replicate the questions asked of Doncaster Hospital as the research will seek to identify if there are different levels of Consultant cover at weekends in hospitals of different sizes.

- How many Consultants are actually working within Bassetlaw Hospital, as a minimum, during the hours of 9am - 5pm on a Saturday? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant.

As a minimum, the following Consultant cover is available at Bassetlaw Hospital on a Saturday between 9am and 5pm:

- Emergency Department – 3 Consultants
- Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Anaesthetics / ITU

- How many Consultants are actually working within Bassetlaw Hospital, as a minimum, during the hours of 9am - 5pm on a Sunday? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant.

Sunday daytime cover is the same as Saturday.

- How many Consultants are available to be contacted to provide urgent advice remotely or onsite at Bassetlaw Hospital, on a Saturday (24hrs)? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant that is on-call

Most specialities provide cross-site on-call cover across both Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals. In addition, there are independent Bassetlaw on-call rotas for:

- Paediatrics
- General Medicine
- Emergency Department
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- ITU / Anaesthetics

- How many Consultants are available to be contacted to provide urgent advice remotely or onsite at Bassetlaw Hospital, on a Sunday (24hrs)? When replying please include the specialism of each Consultant that is on-call

Sunday cover is the same as Saturday.

- For oncall Consultants, for each weekend between 1st April and 30th June how many times were the on-call Consultants called into Bassetlaw hospital to assess or treat patients?

The Trust does not hold the requested information. While on-call Consultant rotas are managed within the Trust, details of individual call-outs (such as the number of times a Consultant was required to physically attend the hospital during an on-call period) are not systematically recorded.

Call-out data is not recorded on HealthRota or any equivalent system. Therefore, under **Section 1(1)(a)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we can confirm that this information is not held.

In line with the FOI regulations, the Trust can confirm that we hold information showing which Consultants are on-call out of hours — this is maintained through the switchboard for operational purposes. However, data showing specific weekend attendance or call-out frequency is not held centrally.

Information on Consultant job plans and programmed activities (which could indicate on-call commitments) is stored in the Trust's L2P system. Extracting this data would require manually checking each individual Consultant's job plan, which would take several hours and exceed the

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reasonable time limit under the Act. Therefore, this information has not been retrieved for this response.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

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