

## **FOI 0457 2025 Response**

### **Request**

hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to submit a Freedom of Information (FOI) request concerning various aspects of clinical coding within your Trust. We are gathering information to understand current practices and to identify areas where support and improvements can be made. Please find below the questions we hope you can assist us with:

1. How many episodes of care were coded by your organisation in 2024 (both inpatient and outpatient)?
2. How many episodes of care went uncoded in 2024?
3. How much income do you estimate was not generated due to uncoded activity?
4. Can you provide the split of coding volumes between specialities (e.g., oncology, cardiology)?
5. Please explain how your organisation manages coding activity.
6. Are outpatient and inpatient coding managed by the same team or separate teams?
7. How many Whole-Time Equivalent (WTE) staff complete clinical coding for the Trust?
8. What proportion of the total WTE staff for clinical coding is substantive (permanent), bank staff, and agency staff?
9. Does the Trust currently have any automated solutions in place for clinical coding?
10. If yes, please explain the automated solution that is in place.
11. If not, is the Trust planning to implement automated coding solutions in the next 12–24 months? Or would it be interested in exploring potential solutions?
12. Is the Trust currently on Payment by Results (PbR), block contracts, or another financial model?
13. What clinical coding systems or software does the Trust currently use to capture clinical codes?
14. Does your Trust's Electronic Patient Record (EPR) system integrate clinical coding, or do clinical departments use standalone systems?
15. What are the main challenges the Trust faces in clinical coding (e.g., timeliness, accuracy, staffing shortages)?
16. Could you provide the contact details (name, job title, and email) of the person who is ultimately responsible for overseeing clinical coding within the Trust?

### **Response**

As of 2021, the Trust no longer clinically codes and therefore we do not have a clinical coding policy.

Please also note that Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust explicitly provide mental health services and do not provide physical healthcare like an Acute Trust.