

FOI 0112_2025 Response

Request

I hope you are well.

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request data on the use and management of short-arm casting within your Trust. For the past three calendar years (or the most recent available), **broken down by month**, please provide the following:

1. Clinical Outcomes & Follow-up

- Number of short-arm casts applied
- Re-casting (refracture) rate within 6–12 weeks
- Complication rates (e.g. skin breakdown, pressure sores, compartment syndrome)
- Follow-up appointment frequency for cast checks and removal

2. Financial & Resource Metrics

- Average cost per short-arm cast treatment (materials, labour and appointments)
- Cost comparison between plaster and fibreglass casts
- Total annual spend on casting materials
- Costs associated with cast-related complications or unplanned re-interventions

3. Staff Time & Workforce

- Staff time allocation per cast application (by professional category)
- Average staff time required for application and removal of a short-arm cast
- Number of staff trained to apply and remove short-arm casts

4. Patient Experience

- Patient-reported issues (e.g. hygiene difficulties, discomfort, lifestyle interference)

Response

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

Your request for information is therefore not applicable to the Trust.