FOI 0126/2025 Response

Governance & Responsibility

1. Do you have a dedicated person or team responsible for solar energy investment and/or sustainability energy initiatives within your organisation?

No.

2. If so, please provide their role/title (personal names are not required).

N/A

Current Solar Deployment

3. How many solar panel installations (PV systems) do you currently operate across your estate?

None.

4. What is the total installed capacity of these systems (in kWp)?

N/A

5. What proportion of your organisation's energy usage is currently provided by solar generation?

N/A

Investment & Strategy

6. Does your organisation have a documented investment strategy for expanding the use of solar panels or increasing on-site renewable energy generation?

No.

7. If so, please provide a copy of or link to the relevant strategy or plan (or summarise key points if not published).

N/A

Solar and Net Zero Commitments

8. Does solar energy form part of your organisation's Net Zero / Carbon Reduction Strategy?

Please refer to the link below for the requested information.

LINK: <u>bsmhft.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Carbon-Net-Zero-Our-Green-Plan-May-2022.pdf</u>

9. If yes, how is progress against this strategy communicated to the public (e.g. via website, reports, dashboards, etc.)?

Via the Trust's website and annual report.

Future Plans

10. Are there any planned solar panel projects or expansions within the next 3 years? If yes, please provide high-level details (e.g. number of sites, scale of deployment, approximate timescales).

No.

11. Have you conducted any feasibility studies on increasing solar capacity in the past 3 years? If so, can these be shared?

Feasibility studies have been undertaken however, we are unable to provide the requested information as they pertain to granular contractual details.

The Trust therefore rely on exemption Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of this request.

- 6. Procurement & Partnerships
 - 12. Does your organisation currently use any third-party companies or frameworks to deliver solar energy solutions or manage installations? If yes, which ones?

The Trust have used a contractor from a framework managed via BSol to undertake the development of solar power schemes.

These schemes have not been delivered due to insufficient Capital funds and instead they a filed away waiting funding.

The actual solution has been scoped but not delivered

Should funding become available for the Trust, we would review and recommend a suitable framework based the project

13. Are there any upcoming procurement exercises planned relating to solar energy or wider renewable energy solutions? No.

Battery Storage

- 14. Do you currently use battery storage alongside your solar panels?
- 15. Are there plans to invest in battery storage in future?

Not at this time.

Funding

16. Has your organisation accessed or applied for any external funding to support solar energy projects (e.g. SALIX, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, LEP funding)?

Yes.

Barriers

17. What are the main barriers your organisation faces to further adoption of solar energy (e.g. funding, planning restrictions, roof suitability, internal resource)?

The Trust is unable to provide a response to this query. This is because the query is opinion based and is not within the spirit of the FOI Act.