

3 March 2026

Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit.

The purpose of this request is to support a sector-level analysis of UK Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) capacity and funding mix. The analysis is focused on understanding the sustainability and capability of CTUs as part of the publicly funded research infrastructure.

I am not seeking commercially sensitive information, named partners, financial values, or internal documents. I am happy for responses to be provided as estimates, approximations or broad ranges, and the information may be aggregated.

Please provide responses to the following questions:

1. **Staffing capacity:** How many full-time equivalent (FTE) staff are currently employed by the CTU, including permanent and fixed-term staff? (If easier, please provide an approximate figure.)

Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit	
Staffing Capacity (as of 30/01/2026)	
No. of Staff Employed:	41
Full-time equivalent (FTE):	38.68
No. Staff on Permanent Contracts:	14
No. Staff on Fixed Term Contracts:	27

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2. **Study funding mix: Please indicate the approximate proportion (%) of studies supported by the CTU over the last three completed financial years, by funding source (Percentages do not need to total exactly 100% and may be estimates.):**

- NIHR (including specific NIHR programmes)
- UKRI / MRC
- Medical research charities
- Industry-sponsored or industry-collaborative
- Other (please specify if possible)

Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit	
Study Funding Mix (01/04/2022 - 31/03/2023)	
	%
NIHR	52.38
Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme	4.76
Health Technology Assessment Programme	47.62
UKRI	14.29
Innovate UK	9.52
Medical Research Council	4.76
AMRC	19.05
Cancer Research UK	4.76
Wellcome Trust	14.29
Industry	0.00
Other	14.29
Health and Social Care Research and Development (Public Health Agency)	9.52
Mater Hospital YP Fund	4.76
Total	100

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Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit	
Study Funding Mix (01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024)	
	%
NIHR	57.89
Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme	5.26
Health Technology Assessment Programme	42.11
Public Health Research Programme	10.53
UKRI	15.79
Innovate UK	10.53
Medical Research Council	5.26
AMRC	21.05
Cancer Research UK	5.26
Wellcome Trust	15.79
Industry	0.00
Other	5.26
Health and Social Care Research and Development (Public Health Agency)	5.26
Total	100

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Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit	
Study Funding Mix (01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025)	
	%
NIHR	56.52
Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme	4.35
Health Technology Assessment Programme	43.48
Public Health Research Programme	8.70
UKRI	13.04
Innovate UK	8.70
Medical Research Council	4.35
AMRC	21.74
Cancer Research UK	4.35
Wellcome Trust	13.04
British Heart Foundation (BHF)/Heart Trust Fund	4.35
Industry	0.00
Other	8.70
Health and Social Care Research and Development (Public Health Agency)	4.35
Glaucoma UK/Health and Social Care Research and Development (Public Health Agency)	4.35
Total	100

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3. **Income mix: Please indicate the approximate proportion (%) of CTU income for the most recent completed financial year, by source (No financial values are requested – proportions only):**

- Core or infrastructure funding
- Project-specific grant funding
- Industry-derived income
- Other income

Northern Ireland Clinical Trials Unit	
Income Mix (01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025)	
	%
Core Infrastructure Funding:	31
Project Specific Grant Funding:	69
Industry Derived Income:	0
Other Income:	0
Total	100