Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
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FOI/30540

6 February 2024

Endoscopy Service

How many patients do you have on the endoscopy waiting list?

There are 9882 patients on full waiting list

What is the name of the endoscopy lead who oversees the endoscopy decisions?

Dr Graham Turner

How many scopes are you processing per week?

600 a week

Are you planning any refurbishments, decants or expansions to the endoscopy department to expand or improve the services this year?

No current plans to refurbish, decant or expand

What are the typical issues you are experiencing within endoscopy services?

High level of demand for Red Flag priority and long waiting lists for endoscopy services in Northern Ireland.

Have you ever used or considered using a mobile endoscopy unit and if so which one?

No, the Belfast Trust Health and Social Care Trust has not used or considered using a mobile endoscopy unit.

If you were to look at a mobile endoscopy unit, would you require staffing?

Yes, to deliver additional capacity staff resource would be required.

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Do you currently use insourcing for your endoscopy lists and if so who do you use?

Yes, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust currently insource. We are unable to provide this information as it is withheld under section 43 (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act.

This section of the Act permits a public authority to withhold information if it would prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority) holding it.

Section 43 is a qualified exemption and requires a public interest test (PIT). The PIT has been completed and the outcome is to maintain the exemption and withhold information regarding the name of the company which we insource from.

Do you have a contingency plan if you experience a disaster situation or the endoscopy unit is unusable?

Belfast Trust has a business continuity plan in place