NHS
Bolton
NHS Foundation Trust

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

REF: 2026-100
Subject: Dermatology Waiting Times & Access

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your email dated **03/02/2026** where you requested information about **Dermatology Waiting Times & Access.**

The information you requested is enclosed.

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. **This request relates to access to NHS dermatology services and waiting times for patients with skin conditions. We are seeking comparable data across NHS Trusts/Boards to understand variation in waiting times and service pressure.** **Please provide the following information for your Trust/Board, covering the last five financial years where available (2019/20 - 2024/25).**	
1. Dermatology Waiting Times and Access Indicators	
For each financial year listed above, please provide:	
a.) Referral-to-Treatment (RTT) elective waiting-time indicators for dermatology services, if held: • Median RTT waiting time (in weeks) • Number of patients waiting over 18 weeks (at year-end) • Number of patients waiting over 52 weeks (at year-end)	Please see attached.
b.) Outpatient dermatology access, if held: • Median waiting time for a first outpatient dermatology appointment (in weeks) • Total number of patients on the dermatology outpatient waiting list at year-end	

Where possible, please indicate whether data are available broken down by: • New vs follow-up appointments • Sub-specialties within dermatology (e.g. inflammatory skin disease, skin cancer, paediatric dermatology), if routinely recorded	
2. Access to Dermatology Care and Capacity (If Held)	
For each year listed above, please provide:	
• The total number of consultant dermatologists employed by the Trust/Board (headcount or FTE, whichever is standard)	2019-2020 – 0.81 FTE 2024-2025 – 0.81 FTE
• Whether the Trust/Board commissions or provides specialist dermatology services beyond general dermatology (e.g. severe eczema, psoriasis, acne, or contact dermatitis clinics)	Cancer diagnosis & treatment Minor operative procedures

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Department. It would be helpful to quote the above reference number in any future communication.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to The Chief Executive, Bolton NHS Foundation Trust, The Royal Bolton Hospital, Minerva Road, Farnworth, Bolton. BL4 0JR.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Bolton NHS Foundation Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire. SK9 5AF.

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Yours sincerely,

Information Governance Department

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transforming lives...for a better Bolton

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