FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

REF: 2026-170
Subject: Flexible Endoscope Reprocessing

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your email dated **26/02/2026** where you requested information about **Flexible Endoscope Reprocessing.**

The information you requested is enclosed.

Please provide the following recorded information relating to flexible endoscope reprocessing within your Trust (including Royal Bolton), covering the most recent five-year period for which data is available.	
Question	**Answer**
1. Reprocessing Incidents	
Please provide: 1. The total number of recorded incidents relating to flexible endoscope reprocessing.	0
2. Of these incidents, the number that resulted in: • Endoscopes being quarantined	No
• Procedures being delayed or cancelled	None
2. Surveillance Failures	
Please provide: a) The total number of surveillance tests recorded as failed, non-compliant, or requiring remedial action.	None
b) Where recorded, the number of failed or non-compliant results by endoscope type	N/A
3. Infection or Look-Back Events	
Please provide: a) The number of confirmed or suspected patient infection incidents linked to endoscopic procedures.	0

b) The number of patient notification or look-back exercises undertaken in relation to endoscope contamination.	0
4. Infection Management Burden	
Where recorded, please provide the total cost associated with: a) Investigation of endoscopy-related infection incidents	N/A
b) Patient notification or look-back exercises	0
c) Additional treatment or inpatient care attributable to confirmed endoscopy-associated infections	0
5. Contingency Measures Activated	
Please confirm whether the Trust has activated any of the following due to reprocessing failure, contamination, or capacity constraints: a) Use of spare or reserve endoscope fleets	No
b) Borrowing scopes from other sites or providers	No
c) Use of alternative or emergency decontamination facilities	No
d) Use of single-use endoscopes	No
Where recorded, please provide the number of occasions such measures were activated.	
In addition, please confirm (Yes/No): e) Whether single-use endoscopes are held as local stock for contingency use.	No
f) Where recorded, the scope types covered by such contingency stock (e.g. GI, bronchoscopy, urology, other).	N/A
g) Where recorded, the number of procedures completed using single-use endoscopes due to reprocessing capacity constraints or contamination events.	None

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.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright Design and Patents Act 1998. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication requires the permission of the Trust. You must ensure you gain the Trust permission before reproducing any third party information.

Yours sincerely,

Information Governance Department

Bolton NHS Foundation Trust
01204 390861
FOI@boltonft.nhs.uk
Informatics Building | Opposite N Block | Royal Bolton Hospital

Improving care,
transforming lives...for a better Bolton

Improving care,
transforming lives...for a better Bolton