

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 23rd September 2025 FOI Ref 30426

Requested Information:

Please could you provide the following information:

General Information

1. The total number of radiology scans performed at NHS hospitals in the last 12 months, broken down by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine scans).
2. A detailed breakdown of the scans performed by body part for each of the above modalities (For example CT head, MRI Spine, bone scan etc) at each trust.
3. The total number of outsourced scans for reporting purposes, categorized by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine) for each hospital / trust.

Outsourcing and Teleradiology

4. Whether any radiology scans are outsourced to external providers by the hospitals.
5. The percentage of scans outsourced for each modality, if applicable at each hospital.
6. The names of the external providers contracted for outsourced radiology reporting to each NSH hospital.
7. The cost per scan for outsourced services, broken down by modality and body part.

Financial Information

8. The total expenditure on outsourced radiology reporting services in the last financial year per trust.
9. Whether there are fixed pricing agreements between teleradiology providers and the hospitals, and if so, the details of these agreements to include start and finish dates and the cost in pounds.

Contracts and Agreements

10. Any active contracts the hospitals have with teleradiology companies, including:
 - a. The names of the contracted providers.
 - b. The start and end dates of the contracts.
 - c. The performance or quality metrics outlined in the contracts.

Backlogs and Reporting Times

11. The current backlog for radiology scan reporting, broken down by modality and body part at each NHS trust.

- 12. The average reporting time for in-house radiology scans, categorized by modality.
- 13. The average reporting time for outsourced scans.
- 14. Whether specific modalities or body parts have more significant backlogs.

Additional Details

- 15. Any delays in reporting radiology scans over the last 12 months and the primary causes of such delays.
- 16. Whether the hospital has plans to reduce reliance on outsourcing for radiology reporting, and if so, the details of these strategies.

Response:

General Information

- 1. The total number of radiology scans performed at NHS hospitals in the last 12 months, broken down by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine scans). **CT: 70,344 MRI: 39,969 NM: 11,193**
- 2. A detailed breakdown of the scans performed by body part for each of the above modalities (For example CT head, MRI Spine, bone scan etc) at each trust.

CT

Abdomen	13714
Ankle	556
Arm	27
Chest	30552
Elbow	167
Feet	193
Forearm	3
Hand	71
Head	17892
Hips	502
Knee	451
Legs	441

Lower Legs	76
Neck	3065
Shoulder	418
Wrist	552
(blank)	1664

MRI

Abdomen	11391
Ankle	449
Arm	32
Chest	3700
Elbow	60
Feet	232
Forearm	22
Groin	2815
Hand	50
Head	13453
Hips	225
Knee	2460
Legs	336
Lower Legs	103
Neck	3563
Shoulder	393
Wrist	190
(blank)	495

NM

Abdomen	1957
Chest	1083
Head	306
Legs	1084
Neck	102
(blank)	6661

3. The total number of outsourced scans for reporting purposes, categorized by modality (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine) for each hospital / trust.

CT - 2002

MRI - 11126

Outsourcing and Teleradiology

4. Whether any radiology scans are outsourced to external providers by the hospitals. **No, RCHT do not hold any outsourcing contracts.**

5. The percentage of scans outsourced for each modality, if applicable at each hospital. **N/A**

6. The names of the external providers contracted for outsourced radiology reporting to each NSH hospital. **Medica, Telemedicine Clinic, 4Ways Healthcare**

7. The cost per scan for outsourced services, broken down by modality and body part. **Commercial in confidence and cannot share**

Financial Information

8. The total expenditure on outsourced radiology reporting services in the last financial year per trust. **£450,256**

9. Whether there are fixed pricing agreements between teleradiology providers and the hospitals, and if so, the details of these agreements to include start and finish dates and the cost in pounds. **TMC and Medica 10/01/22 to 09/01/26 – 4Ways Healthcare 01/02/23 to 31/01/26**

Contracts and Agreements

10. Any active contracts the hospitals have with teleradiology companies, including:

a. The names of the contracted providers. **TMC and Medica, 4Ways Healthcare**

b. The start and end dates of the contracts. **TMC and Medica 10/01/22 to 09/01/26 – 4Ways Healthcare 01/02/23 to 31/01/26**

c. The performance or quality metrics outlined in the contracts. **Not tracked**

Backlogs and Reporting Times

11. The current backlog for radiology scan reporting, broken down by modality and body part at each NHS trust. **CT 402 / MRI 469 / NM 38**

12. The average reporting time for in-house radiology scans, categorized by modality. **CT 2.01 days / MRI 4.57 days / NM 1.56 days**

13. The average reporting time for outsourced scans. **8.4 days**

14. Whether specific modalities or body parts have more significant backlogs. **CT Cone Beam & CT Chest**

MRI Heart/Cardiac

NM – N/A

Additional Details

15. Any delays in reporting radiology scans over the last 12 months and the primary causes of such delays. **There have been delays to some reporting services over the last 12 months, caused by retirement, difficulty and challenge to recruit in Cornwall, and growth in demand.**

16. Whether the hospital has plans to reduce reliance on outsourcing for radiology reporting, and if so, the details of these strategies. **Yes. Increase use of PENRAD and SIRP reporting opportunities, completed successful recruitment drive of radiologists x 5, starting over the course of the next 6 months and capacity demand modelling.**

Attachment(s):

No attachment(s)

Date Response sent: 22 October 2025