**FOI Ref: 6593**

**Category(ies): Clinical - Service Activity**

**Subject: Pet Therapy or Animal Assisted Therapy**

**Date Received: 01/09/2022**

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| **Your request:** | **Our response:** |
| I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from you. Please may you provide me with: | |
| 1. Has the Trust ever used any form of pet therapy or animal assisted therapy in your hospitals? | Yes |
| 1. If your Trust has used such services how have they been provided to the Trust i.e. Voluntary or funded by the Trust and has this remained the same or changed between voluntary and funded? | Trust funded only |
| 1. What do you estimate the cost to be to the Trust of using animal assisted therapy by year for the last 5 years (if applicable?) | Circa £3000 per year |
| 1. Who is responsible within the Trust for organising Pet Therapy Services? | \*Sarah Newbold, Head of Engagement |
| 1. What policies and procedures have been put in place as safeguards for using animals in hospitals? | The dog and owner are escorted by Trust staff whilst on Trust premises  Please see the attached Policy for Animals/Pets on Trust Premises |
| 1. What qualifications / certifications does the Trust expect therapy animals to hold to guarantee patient safety? | The provider meets the PAT approved criteria. They carry full Euro Vaccination Passports and have Public Liability Cover |

\*The name of the relevant individual is detailed. The provision of these details **does not** imply consent for unsolicited correspondence on your part. As per Section 122 of the Data Protection Act 2018, **permission is not given** to use these details for unsolicited contact. Right to prevent processing for purposes of direct marketing.

*S122 (5) direct marketing” means the communication (by whatever means) of advertising or marketing material which is directed to a particular individual.*