

Mr Hemmings  
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**Ref: 6591 2021**

08 July 2021

Dear Requester

**Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you once again for your request under the Freedom of Information Act. For ease of reference I am attaching your original questions:

- a) **The cycle threshold currently used for COVID-19 PCR tests.** – There is no such thing as a cycle threshold. The Trust run the assay for 40 cycles, this is standard for many PCR assays.
- b) **If the cycle threshold has been changed any time since January 2020, when was it changed and what values were used.** - We have used 40 cycles since testing started, it has not changed
- c) **A distribution of positive tests by CTs, for each month from January 2020 to the present (most recent data available), for example:**

**Month: January 2020**

Cycles	Positive Results Returned within Cycle Range
1-5	1
6-10	2
11-15	3
16-20	4
21-25	5
26-30	6
31-35	7

36-40	8
41-45	9
46+	10

Please do not summarise in ranges of more than 5 CT's (as above example), however smaller ranges (i.e. 1-4 CT per range) are acceptable if available with a range of 1 being most desirable.

If you do not hold any or all of this data please try to explain why and where you believe this data may be held.

The Trust does not hold this information centrally. To provide this information would involve in depth analysis of several systems and the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. Unfortunately, this means we are unable to provide the information requested.

Please note that the information provided is the property of the Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust and is subject to Intellectual Property Database rights. Any commercial application or use of this information may be subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. This means that if you wish to re-use the information provided for commercial purposes for any reason you must ask us for permission to do so.

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request will be held on a database held by the Trust.

I hope the information provided meets your needs. If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of the response to your original request and should be sent to the Trust Company Secretary, at the address at the top of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your application has been dealt with in accordance with the Act. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information  
**Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust**