

A. Brown

Dear Mr Brown

Re: Freedom of Information Request:

I write in response to your FOI request sent by email dated 9 November 2012 regarding the above. The specific questions that you ask are set out below with the relevant response highlighted in **bold**.

- 1) Can you please advise how many magnetic optical drives the Trust had, in relation to storing echocardiographic recordings from Sonos ultrasound machines/other machines? **Echocardiograms from the Sonos Ultrasound equipment were stored in a single dedicated storage solution, which was not used by any other ultrasound service.**
- 2) Did the Trust have a budget for repair or replacement of such hardware in case of failure. If so please provide details. **The equipment was on a service contract.**
- 3) Did the Trust have a budget/personnel with a brief to migrate old to new formats to ensure continued readability of ultrasound data ? If so please provide details. **Technology advances so quickly and formats change that it is not a cost effective process to migrate all distant historical data. All patients that have echocardiograms will have a detailed clinical analysis and report of the echocardiograms in the patients NHS records. Clinicians do not require to review distant historical 2D data for clinical purposes. No data is lost.**
- 4) When were Sonos 5500 replaced ? **Replaced in 2009**
- 5) How many ultrasound recordings are currently said to be unreadable because of the failure of a MOD drive ? **No ultrasound images are irretrievable. As previously mentioned in other correspondence, the Trust does not have the compatible equipment in house to retrieve distant historical data.**
- 6) Is it only cardiac ultrasound or are other ultrasound studies also affected? **The cardiac ultrasound images are not affected, as mentioned above and in previous correspondence the Trust does not have the equipment in-house to re review distant 2D historical images.**
- 7) It has been stated that hardware failed in 2008, why was nothing done to repair or replace that hardware at the time or since, or to make other arrangements for conversion of the echocardiographic data to another format in order it could be read by clinicians/obtained by patients. **Action was taken at the time to replace the storage system with the current technology of**

the time. Technology advances so quickly and formats change that it is not a cost effective process to migrate all distant historical data. All patients that have echocardiograms will have a detailed clinical analysis and report of the echocardiograms in the patients NHS records. Clinicians do not require to review distant historical 2D data for clinical purposes. No data is lost.

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request will be held on a database held by the Trust. If you are unhappy about the response you have received your first line of action should be to write and request the Trust to undertake an internal review of your application. This can be done by contacting our

Complaints Department at:-
c/o Kidderminster Hospital
Bewdley Road
Kidderminster
Worcs DY11 5RJ

If after this process you are still not satisfied with the response you receive from the Trust you can complain to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please note that we publish selected FOI requests and responses on our website www.worcsacute.nhs.uk and this response might be published at a later date.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Chairman: Harry Turner
Chief Executive: Penny Venables