Southern Health and Social Care Trust
TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES

Information Governance Team

FOI 3463

11th December 2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

AI system information

1) Within the hospitals your trust is responsible for, how many artificial intelligence (AI) systems are currently in development and what is the name of the AI system?

Response:
None

2) Within the hospitals your trust is responsible for, how many AI systems are currently deployed?

Response:
Four

3) For every AI system in questions 1 and 2:

a) Is the AI system being used operationally, clinically, or for another purpose?

Response:
Clinical

b) What department(s) is the AI system being used in?

Response:
Acute Services

c) What month and year was the AI system first deployed? (n/a if in development).

Response:
October 2022
August 2024
September 2025
December 2025

d) Was the AI system created by a commercial entity, university, in-house, or within another NHS trust? Please give the name of the organisation.

Response:
In accordance with Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Law enforcement – the prevention or detection of crime, such information is exempt from disclosure.

Although the Southern Trust understands that there is a public interest in being open and transparent, the information including manufacturer, models and replacement timeframes is business sensitive and has the potential to leave the Trust vulnerable to cyber-attacks. By disclosing these details, this information could prejudice and compromise the Trust's network/IT security.

We believe that putting this information into the public domain would make the Trust more vulnerable to cyber-attacks. The public interest in maintaining the security of our systems and providing safe health and social care to our patients/clients outweighs the public interest in disclosure of this information.

e) How was the AI system validated in the target population before deployment?

Response:
The devices are AI/ML and the training and validations sets of the devices are derived from multi-site, mixed populations. The validation sites and populations are independent of the training sites, to allow for generalisation away from the training data.

f) What measures are in place to monitor for degradation in the performance of the AI system post-deployment?

Response:
The medical device regulations require post market monitoring and reporting through our normal processes which are audited by Notified Bodies.

g) What was the cost to procure the AI model and what is the ongoing cost of use?

Response:
Cap ex : £13,263
Annual Revenue : £12,495
The Business Services Organisation hold data on the costs of three of systems, as they were procured by the BSO on behalf of the Region.

h) Which departmental budget is the cost paid from?

Response:

For one solution the Budget holder is the Medical and Unscheduled Care Directorate. For the remaining three solutions the Business Services Organisation hold data on the costs of these systems, as they were procured by the BSO on behalf of the Region.

Data management

4) Was any local patient data used for training or fine tuning the AI system?

Response:
No

5) Is any patient data collected specifically for the purpose of training any of the AI systems currently in development or deployment?

Response:
No

6) Do you share, or plan to share, any patient data with third-party developers for AI-related purposes?

Response:
No

If yes, please provide details of the data-sharing agreement or relevant policy.

Response:
N/A

Regulation

7) What is the regulation and certification of the AI model under the European Union Medical Device Directive and/or United Kingdom Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)?

Response:
The models are under the MDD/MDR depending on module and CE Marked.

Patient/public involvement

8) Was any patient/public engagement undertaken before deployment of the AI system?

Response:
No

9) Is there any ongoing patient/public engagement input into the use of AI within your organisation?

Response:
No

Governance
10) Who has responsibility for the AI systems being using?

Response:
The Medicine and Unscheduled Care Directorate and the Surgical and Clinical Services Directorate have responsibility for the solutions being used.

11) Does your organisation have a governance policy that covers:
a) Use of AI systems within your organisation?

Response:
No – Regional Policy is in draft.

b) Ongoing evaluation of an AI model's performance after deployment?

Response:
Yes this is a standard requirement under the Medical Device Regulations worldwide for post market monitoring of devices.

c) How to monitor for bias in the AI system and how to mitigate against

Response:

The systems are fixed at device approval and are not learning systems. The removal of bias is accounted for in the training and validation.

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