

FOI 3729

15th May 2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Question: Is Basic Life Support course mandatory for the medical professionals working for the Health Board?

Response:

Basic Life Support (BLS) training is not classified as mandatory within the Trust. The current position is that resuscitation training is regarded as “best practice rather than mandatory training”. However, the Trust has a statutory duty to ensure clinical staff are appropriately trained and updated periodically in resuscitation skills aligned to their role.

Question: How many courses per year does your Resus Training Department deliver?

Response:

Based on current provision:

Course	Frequency
Basic Life Support (BLS)	2-4 sessions per week for 2 Resuscitation Officers. Unless there is annual leave or ALS/APLS or GIC then this drops to zero. 6 candidates per session
Immediate Life Support (ILS)	2 courses per week for 2 staff maximum 6 candidates per instructor no sessions if ALS/APLS and GIC or Annual Leave occurs
Paediatric Immediate Life Support (PILS)	2 courses per week for 2 staff maximum 6 candidates per instructor no sessions if ALS/APLS and GIC or Annual Leave occurs
Recognition of Sick Patient	Occurs during BLS for Nurses as outlined above
Advanced Life Support (ALS)	8 courses per year
Advanced Paediatric Life Support (APLS)	2 courses (2-day) per year

Question: What percentage of doctors/nurses/midwives and other allied health professionals have done BLS training in the last 1 year?

Response:

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual records. As such we cannot provide this information as the

cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information from a number of individual patient records would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

Question: What percentage of your medical personnel have profession specific Advanced Life Support (ALS) training?

Response:

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual records. As such we cannot provide this information as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information from a number of individual patient records would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

Question: What is the required frequency for mandatory BLS training?

Response:

Although not mandatory the Trust recommends:

General clinical staff:

- BLS refresher typically **every 1–2 years**

Specific examples from workforce groups:

- Healthcare Assistants: **every 2 years**
- GPs (OOH): **every 15 months**
- AHPs:
 - **Yearly** if working under PGD
 - Otherwise **every 2 years**
- Medical staff (acute settings): often **annual BLS alongside other resuscitation training**

Question: What strategies or measures has the trust adopted to encourage annual BLS training for medical professionals with patient facing duties (no pay progression if mandatory training not completed, departmental sessions, ESR alerts, managerial supervision of mandatory training etc)?

Response:

The Trust supports access to resuscitation training through centrally coordinated programmes, role-based requirements, and scheduled training sessions. Staff engagement with training is encouraged through managerial supervision and local oversight within clinical teams.

Question: Does the organisation require resus teams to have Advanced Life Support training?

Response:

Yes -The Trust requires Advanced Life Support (ALS) training for staff who are expected to participate in the management of cardiac arrest as part of a resuscitation team or cardiology area for example the Cardiac Catheterisation Unit.

This requirement also applies to staff working in the following clinical areas:

- Emergency Department
- Intensive Care
- Anaesthetics
- Cardiology
- Other critical care environments

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