

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: UHB 18-261

Date 8 May 2018

By Email

Dear Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

Important context:

The Bristol breast cancer service is a completely shared service between University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (UH Bristol) and North Bristol NHS Trust (NBT).

UH Bristol:

- Breast cancer oncology treatment (chemotherapy and radiotherapy)
- Metastatic Breast Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialists (to support people from the point of diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer through advanced disease / palliative treatment). This team will take referrals from NBT to pick up 'on treatment' support for complex adjuvant / neo-adjuvant breast cancer patients whilst attending oncology and then refer back to the NBT team at the end of treatment.

NBT:

- Avon Breast Screening Service
- Breast cancer surgery
- Breast Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialists (to support from diagnosis through adjuvant / neo-adjuvant treatment (including oncology across at UH Bristol) and into follow up / discharge)

Should you require any information which relates to the service provided by North Bristol NHS Trust, please contact them directly on foi@nbt.nhs.uk

- 1) Does your Trust offer a Health and Wellbeing event accessible to all breast cancer patients at the end of hospital-based treatment? (A Health and Wellbeing event is defined as a group education and support event which helps people to manage their physical and psychological health after a cancer diagnosis.)**

All adjuvant / neoadjuvant breast cancer patients are invited to the Health & Wellbeing breast cancer events and a breast cancer self-management courses at NBT following completion of treatment.

A monthly support group is available to all metastatic breast cancer patients to attend, run by Breast Cancer Care and supported by UH Bristol.

UHBristol are currently developing a 'Living with uncertainty / advanced disease' health and wellbeing style event for all patients with advanced diseases (who don't currently attend the standard H&W events) – these will be generic across multiple cancers, but breast cancer will be included.

- 2) If the Trust does offer a Health and Wellbeing event for breast cancer patients, are these events:
- Solely for people with breast cancer or;
 - For people with all types of cancer

These events are solely for people with breast cancer.

- 3) For breast cancer patients who have completed their hospital-based treatment, do the nurses in the breast care unit routinely make direct referrals, where appropriate, to the following? (*By 'direct referral' we mean gaining consent from a patient to pass on their details to a support service or arranging for someone from the service to contact the patient*)

Both NBT and UHBristol Clinical Nurse Specialists all have access to the following services (for their defined cohorts of patients):

Services provided by charities

Support services provided by charities that support people with cancer	Yes
Support services provided by charities that support people with breast cancer only	Yes

NHS Services

Counselling / psychology services within the NHS	Yes
Physiotherapy services within the NHS	Yes
Fertility services within the NHS	Yes
Lymphoedema services within the NHS	Yes
Other support services – please specify below Rehabilitation – community and hospital based service (including Energise exercise based cancer rehab) Cancer support workers Fatigue management programmes CAB financial support Macmillan Bristol buddies Look Good feel better Penny Brohn UK services	Yes

- 4) If you do not refer to some/any of the services in question 3, is this due to any of the reasons below? Please indicate all that apply

NOT APPLICABLE – ALL SERVICES ACCESSED.

a. **Support services provided by charities that support people with cancer**

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Service is unsuitable for breast cancer patients	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

b. **Support services provided by charities that support people with breast cancer only**

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

c. **Counselling / psychology services within the NHS**

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

d. **Physiotherapy services within the NHS**

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

e. Fertility services within the NHS

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

f. Lymphoedema services within the NHS

Service not available	N/A
Unaware of service	N/A
Service is oversubscribed	N/A
Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made	N/A
Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals	N/A
Other (please give details)	

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary
 University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
 Trust Headquarters
 Marlborough Street
 Bristol
 BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

FOI Administrator