

Email: foi.tsdft@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10187

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

If you have more than one hospital in your Trust, we would like you to return data for each hospital that cares for babies, children, and young people (aged 0-17).

Section 1: Information about completing this FOI request

Who has contributed to filling in this FOI response? Please provide job titles, not names.	Was the Play Team involved in compiling the response? [Y/N]
Ward manager, Louisa Cary Ward	Yes
Play specialist, Louisa Cary Ward	

Section 2: Information about numbers of wards and beds, and types of play provision

Between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025, for each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the numbers of wards/departments and beds that care for 0-17 year olds and the types of play provision.

To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments).

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	Number of beds for 0-17 year olds in this ward/ department	Are 0-17 year olds supported by a member of the play team* in this ward/ department? [Y/N]	Do 0-17 year olds have access to an indoor playroom/area in this ward/ department? [Y/N]	Do 0-17 year olds have access to a designated outdoor play area in this ward/ department? [Y/N]	Do 0-17 year olds have access to play resources such as toys, games, activities etc. in this ward/ department? [Y/N]
TSDFT	Louisa Cary Ward	19	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
TSDFT	Short stay paediatric assessment unit (SSPAU)	10	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

**Please see Appendix A below for list of job titles*

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the current Play Team(s). To provide this information, please use the following table:

Also, for each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know what job titles are within the Play Team(s) and some subsequent information about their roles. To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments). NB If multiple members of staff share the same job title, please list each staff member separately as the subsequent information about their roles might differ. Please see Appendix A below for a list of Play Team job titles and their definitions (not exhaustive but can help to make distinctions between each job title).

[illegible]

The qualifications of Band 3 and 4 staff have been withheld under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as this information constitutes their personal data.

Section 4: Information about recruiting the Play Team(s)

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about recruiting the Play Team(s). To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	When recruiting a Health Play Specialist, do you request a qualification in health play specialism as essential criteria for the role? [Y/N]	When recruiting a Health Play Specialist, do you request being registered with the Society of Health Play Specialists (SoHPS) as essential criteria for the role? [Y/N]	Do you recruit people into a Health Play Specialist role, that do not have a qualification in health play specialism? [Y/N]. If yes, is it mandatory for them to do this qualification when in post? [Y/N]	Is it mandatory for Health Play Specialists to be registered with SoHPS in your Trust? [Y/N]
TSDFT	No	No	Yes to recruitment No to mandatory qualification	No

Section 5: Information about play coverage

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know about the play coverage in terms of hours/times of day. To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments).

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	What hours are the Play Team available on weekdays? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.)	What hours are the Play Team available on weekends? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.) [write n/a if not available on weekends]	What are the opening hours of the indoor playroom/area on weekdays? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.) [write n/a if no indoor playroom]	What are the opening hours of the indoor playroom/area on weekends? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.) [write n/a if no indoor playroom]	What are the opening hours of the designated outdoor play area on weekdays? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.) [write n/a if no outdoor play area]	What are the opening hours of the designated outdoor play area on weekends? (e.g., 9-5, 24/7 etc.) [write n/a if no outdoor play area]
TSDFT	Louisa Cary Ward	7.30-6.30-Monday to Thursday 7.30-5 Friday	n/a	24/7	24/7	n/a	n/a

Also, for each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know the following information:

Name of hospital that cares for 0–17-year-olds	Do you have any other measures/provisions that make this hospital or ward/department more welcoming or playful for children and young people before attending an appointment/being admitted? [Y/N] If yes, please tell us what these measures/provisions are.	Do you have any other measures/provisions that make this hospital or ward/department more welcoming or playful for children and young people during their appointment/admission? [Y/N] If yes, please tell us what these measures/provisions are.
TSDFT	• Murals / decoration • Staff are child focused • Pre visit phone calls • Little Journey App	Support and distraction from play team throughout appointment. Play team pre alerted to children requiring support.

Section 6: Information about play budgets

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the annual budget for play. To provide this information, please use the following table.

Name of hospital that cares for 0–17-year-olds	Is there an annual budget specifically for play resources and materials (aside from health play staff)? [Y/N/No but resources can be purchased through a central budget].	Is there an annual budget specifically for health play staffing and training? [Y/N]
TSDFT	No, but resources can be purchased through a central budget.	No

If you answered ‘Yes’ or ‘No but resources can be purchased through a central budget’, I would also like to know what the annual budget was for FY24-25 (between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025) and what it was spent on. To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments).

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	What was the approximate overall annual budget available for play in FY24-25? (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on Play Team staffing? (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on resources and materials for play? (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on commissioning/ paying for external organisations/individuals providing play on an ad-hoc basis? (In £) [please list these organisations/individuals]	How much of the budget was spent on health play staff training and development budget? (In £)
TSDFT	Louisa Cary Ward	£99,369 (entire budget for ward)	Not recorded in a readily available format	Not recorded in a readily available format	£0	Not recorded in a readily available format

The requested breakdown is not recorded in a readily available format. Providing it would require a manual review of expenditure and invoices for the financial year to identify relevant play-related costs. We estimate that this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 (18 hours) and therefore section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies. We have provided the information that can be identified within the cost limit.

Also, for each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know who funds the budget for play staff / resources (e.g., ICB, Trust, Charity, a Fundraising Group, other donations, etc.). To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments). If more than one funder, please specify in the table below who they are and what they are funding.

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	Funder/source of donations	Value of fund/donation (In £)	What are they funding? (e.g., play team, toys and resources, external entertainers)
TSDFT	Louisa Cary Ward	ICB Funded	Unknown	Unknown

Section 7: Information about The Play Well Toolkit

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about The Play Well Toolkit. To provide this information, please use the following table:

Is your Trust aware of the Play Well Toolkit? [Y/N]
Yes

If 'Yes', please complete this table:

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Has this hospital adopted or committed to adopt the Play Well recommended standards? [Y/N]. - If yes, have they completed the Play Well quality checklist? [Y/N]. If yes, please share a copy of the completed checklist. - If no, please say why (i.e., a hospital is not intending to adopt the recommended standards).	Do you have any other guidance/policies on how play should be delivered in your Trust? [Y/N]. If yes, please share it with us if you can.	Starlight has partnered with NHS England to develop and publish the Play Well toolkit. Starlight also provides support and training on the implementation on the toolkit. If your Trust would benefit from support and training on the implementation of the Play Well Toolkit and would like to hear more, please provide the relevant contact details to share this information.
TSDFT	Yes.	Yes	No

	Bench marking exercise completed as requested by SW play specialist network		
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Section 8: Information about measurement tools for 0–17 year olds

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about measurement tools. To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Does this hospital measure procedural anxiety for 0-17 year olds? [Y/N] • If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital measure pain for 0-17 year olds? [Y/N] • If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital measure emotions/how they are feeling for 0-17 year olds? [Y/N] • If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital evaluate the impact of play? [Y/N] • If yes, do they evaluate the efficiencies and cost benefits of play? [Y/N] • If yes, please share any reports or evidence with us if you can.
TSDFT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Thank you in advance for all the support you will be providing with this request.

Appendix A

Play Team job titles and their definitions (not an exhaustive list):

- **Health Play Specialists...** are clinical support professionals with the skills to safeguard children's emotional and mental health during treatment and procedures, and throughout their healthcare journeys. They will often also manage the play team. Health Play Specialists should have completed, or be completing, a Diploma in Health Play Specialism.
- **Playworkers...** provide opportunities for children to play, support them to play, engage with them through play and thereby build trusting relationships and communication with young patients.
- **Youth workers...** ensure adolescents receiving medical treatment can receive age-appropriate support, have their individual needs assessed and are referred to resources and services that align with their interests and needs. A youth worker is essential in supporting a young person into adult care, if required, and sourcing services that the young person can use to support them during this transition.
- **Play Therapists...** have a qualification in play therapy and help children to make sense of difficult life experiences, or complex psychological issues through play and will work to improve children's mental health, emotional well-being, learning capabilities and social relationships.

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If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.feedback@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team