

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: [EPUT.FOI.23.2928](#)
Date Received: [17th of April 2023](#)

Information Requested:

Please may you provide me with the following?

1. Does the trust use dogs for any therapeutic or medicinal purposes (e.g. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance) within your hospitals or for patients at home?

[Yes](#)

2. If so, are these dogs engaged as part of the NHS or through an external organisation (Dogs charity)

[External organisation Currently, Pets as Therapy, previously Nurture Dogs](#)

3. Please could you specify how many dogs have been engaged for each of the last ten calendar years (2012-2022), broken down by purpose. (E.g. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance)

[PAT. 5 dogs in total. 4 from Nurture Dogs and 1 from Pets as Therapy](#)

4. Please list the main breeds used with the most commonly used breeds first.

[Spaniel, Greyhound, Mongrel](#)

5. How many full time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc.) worked with these dogs for each of the years in the same period?

[Nurture dogs: 2 staff](#)

[Pets As Therapy: 1 staff](#)

6. What was the trust's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit?

[Free for Pets as Therapy](#)

[Staff member ran a marathon and raised funds for Nurture dogs, so this was also free.](#)

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link

<https://eput.nhs.uk>