

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: [EPUT.FOI.22.2427](#)
Date Received: [18 March 2022](#)

Information Requested:

The role of Director/Chief/Lead of AHPs is commonly described as *“Providing Workforce Leadership for Allied Health Professions, map the current AHP workforce across the trust, work with other trust AHP Directors and develop a strategic workforce plan for recruitment and retention of Allied Health Professions within the trust.”¹*

Section 1. Within your Trust, do you have a role that meets the above description?

- Yes
 No

If the answer is **“Yes”** answer section 2 **only**, and if the answer is **“No”** answer Section 3 **only**.

Section 2

2.1. What is title?

- Director of AHPs
 Chief AHP
 Lead AHP
 Other (please specify): _____

2.2 When was the role of Director/Chief/Lead AHP or its equivalent first created within the Trust?

2.3. Is there someone currently in this post?

- Yes
 No

If no, why not?

2.4. If yes, are they registered as an allied health professional (AHP)?

- Yes
 No

2.5 If yes, which profession?

- Art Therapist
- Drama therapist
- Music therapist
- Chiropodist/podiatrist
- Dietitian
- Occupational therapist
- Operating Department Practitioner
- Orthoptist
- Osteopath
- Paramedic
- Physiotherapist
- Prosthetist
- Orthotist
- Radiographer
- Speech and language therapist

2.6. If they are not registered as an AHP, what is their professional background?

2.7. Does this individual have a position on the Trust board?

- Yes
- No

2.8. Which Allied Healthcare professions are employed by your Trust?
 (Please complete the table below)

	Select the AHP professions employed by your Trust	If your Trust employs this profession, select if the Director/Chief/Lead AHP or its equivalent leads/directs this profession
Art Therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drama therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Music therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chiropodists/podiatrists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dietitians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Occupational therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operating Department Practitioners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orthoptists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Osteopaths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paramedics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physiotherapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prosthetists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orthotists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Radiographers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speech and language therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3.

It has been shown that “*there are benefits to improvement activity, as well as to the visibility and influence of the AHP workforce on the Trust’s priorities when there is a designated AHP lead*”, and that these roles should be put in place in each Trust^{1,2}.

3.1. Do you expect to advertise/create a job role meeting the above description within the next 6 months?

- Yes
 No

3.2. If no, are you planning to advertise/create this role in the long term 12-24 months?

- Yes
 No

3.3 If no, what has been the main barrier/s that are preventing a job role meeting the above description from being created in the long term (12-24months)?

3.4. Is your Trust aware of the NHS England and NHS Improvement strategy (2019 *Investing in chief allied health professionals: insights from trust executives.*) to have designated AHP leads?

- Yes
 No

References:

1. NHS England and NHS Improvement. Investing in chief allied health professionals: insights from trust executives. 2019;(July).
<https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/investing-chief-allied-health-professionals/>
2. NHS England and NHS Improvement. *Developing Allied Health Professional Leaders: A Guide for Trust Boards and Clinicians.*; 2019.

Response:

In response to questions 1 – 3 inclusive, we say this: The Trust believes that this information is publicly available on its website and in an effort to be help the link is: https://eput.nhs.uk/PublicationWF/PDF_Output/8682.pdf to the website and therefore is applying a Section 21 exemption of the Act (Information accessible to applicant by other means)

Applied Exemptions

Section 21: Information accessible to applicant by other means.

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—

(a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and

(b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

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>