

Agenda item:	13
Attachment:	H

HRA BOARD COVER SHEET

Date of Meeting:	19/07/2017
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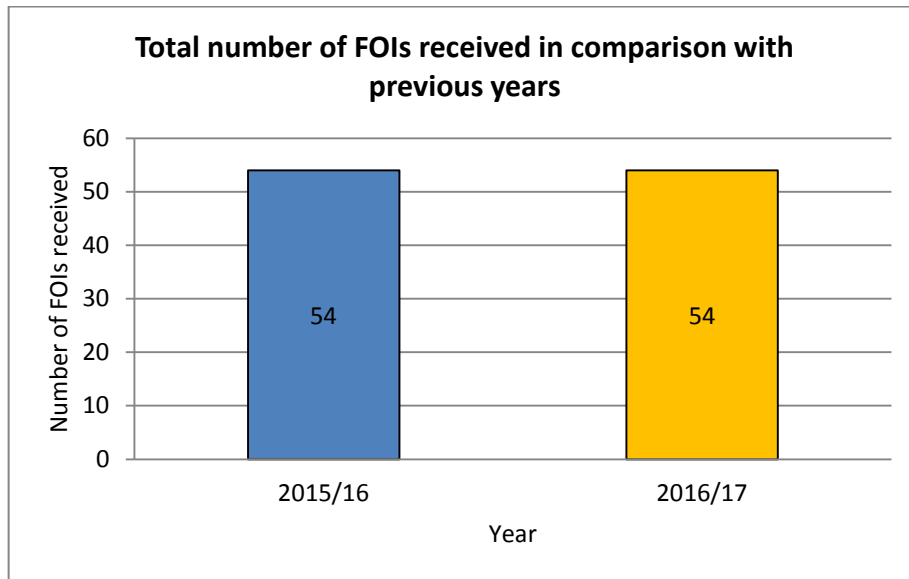
Title of Paper:	Annual summary of Freedom of Information requests received 2016/17
Purpose of Paper:	To provide the Board with an overview of Freedom of Information requests received during the period 01 April 2016 – 31 March 2017.
Reason for Submission:	For information
Details:	<p>Please see the FOI register 2016/17 and comparison with last year.</p> <p>The pie chart shows the highest proportion of FOIs received for 2016/17 relate to the Research Ethics Service and IT. This is similar to previous years.</p> <p>Please see the register for more specific details.</p>
Suitable for wider circulation?	Yes – to be published following Board
Time required for item:	10

Recommendation / Proposed Actions:	To approve	
	For information / to note	X
	For discussion	
	Comments	

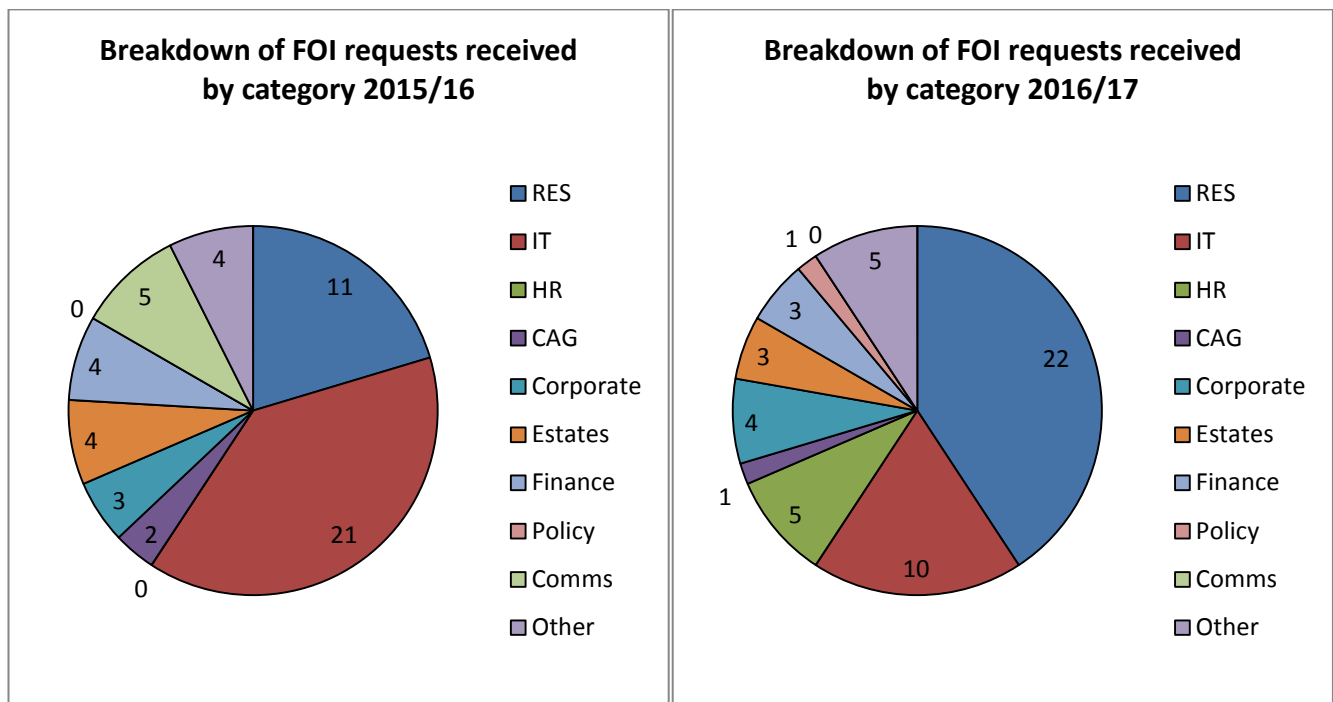
Name:	Stephen Tebbutt
Job Title:	Head of Corporate Governance
Date:	12/06/2017

Comparison of FOIs

- A total of 54 FOI requests were received in 2016/17, the same figure as in 2015/16.



- For 2016/17 the greatest number of FOI requests received related to the Research Ethics Service (RES) (22). This is an increase from 2015/16 when 11 RES requests were received.
- The second highest category for 2016/17 was IT with 10 requests received. This is in comparison with 21 requests received last year.
- For both years 'Other' (generally information not held by the HRA) received a number of requests (4 for 2015/16 and 5 for 2016/17).



HEALTH RESEARCH AUTHORITY

Register of FOI requests – from 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

FOI No. Yr/FOI/#	Nature of FOI request	Division	Days taken to acknowledge (working)	Days to taken to respond (working)	Notes
1617/FOI/001	Request for information pertaining to the organisation's banking services, audit services and card processing services.	Finance	0	12	Information provided
1617/FOI/002	Request for the agenda, papers and minutes of the Research Governance Framework Steering Group and the findings from the social care scoping report.	Policy	1	13	Information provided
1617/FOI/003	Request for a copy of the REC minutes where the following study was reviewed: 07/Q0505/50	RES	4	20	Information not held. Unable to locate file and assumed destroyed during office transfer. <i>(N.B. documentation subsequently found and shared with requester)</i>
1617/FOI/004	Request for information relating to the number of information security / data protection incidents / security near misses the organisation has had since April 2011 and copies of the relevant policy / guidance.	Corporate	0	7	Information provided
1617/FOI/005	Request for contract information relating to facilities management including property maintenance, cleaning, security and catering services.	Estates	2	20	Information provided
1617/FOI/006	Request for information relating to the structure of the organisation's IT department.	IT	1	2	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/007	Request for information relating to the costs for smoking control / cessation for the last five years.	Other	1	3	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/008	Request for information relating to the study "A Quantitative Evaluation of Suboxone in the Treatment of Opiate Dependency"	RES	2	3	Information not provided. Study approved by Scotland A REC, appointed by NHS Lothian which is responsible for any FOI requests relating to that study.
1617/FOI/009	Request for documentation and any communications in relation to REC study 14/LO/0411	RES	1	17	Information provided. One questionnaire withheld under section 22 (1) (a) of the Act (the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date). Personal information redacted.
1617/FOI/010	Request for information relating to the responses given to question A14-1 (patient, service user and public involvement) for 130 REC applications.	RES	1	17	Information provided.
1617/FOI/011	Request for information relating to the number of compromise agreements entered into by the HRA with staff or former staff.	HR	1	20	Information provided
1617/FOI/012	Request for information regarding the length of time it took from the initial application submission to receiving final REC opinion for 78 studies.	RES	3	7	Information provided.
1617/FOI/013	Request for information relating to the mean and median earnings for male and female employees for the most recent year available.	HR	0	18	Information provided
1617/FOI/014	Request for information relating to the organisation's telephone contract.	IT	2	3	Information provided
1617/FOI/015	Request for information relating to the HRA's ICT expenditure broken down by specific categories.	IT	1	16	Information not provided in the format requested. Withheld under section 12 of the FOIA - a public body is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. As we do not capture our financial information in the way requested, analysis and reworking presentation of our costs would take the cost of providing the information above the appropriate limit. However the HRA instead provided ICT information in the format provided for similar ICT FOI requests.
1617/FOI/016	Request for details relating to the HRA's contract with BGO media.	IT	4	18	Information provided.
1617/FOI/017	Request for information relating to whether the HRA has a cyber abuse or social media policy and whether any staff have been disciplined in relation to social media conduct / cyber bullying.	HR	0	6	Information provided - null return. No specific cyber bullying policy held or instances of staff disciplined noted however a copy of Disciplinary policy and procedure provided noting the appendix on code of conduct and use of social media.

1617/FOI/018	Request for information relating to a study undertaken at the John Radcliffe Hospital prior to March 1998 which analysed blood samples taken from pregnant women.	RES	1	1	Information not held - unable to identify any studies from details provided. Pre Research Ethics Database (RED) /HRA Assessment Review Portal (HARP) study.
1617/FOI/019	Request for information relating to air conditioning units and contracts.	Estates	1	15	Information provided
1617/FOI/020	Request for copies of all communications between the HRA and Google DeepMind, HRA and the Royal Free NHS Trust which pertain to Google DeepMind and all internal communications relating to the 'Streams' app between August 2015 and August 2016 inclusive.	RES	1	20	Information provided with redactions applied. FOIA exemptions Section 41- information provided in confidence and Section 43 - trade secrets and prejudice to commercial interests were applied along with personal identifiable information being redacted prior to release.
1617/FOI/021	Request for information relating to the mean and median earnings for male and female employees for the most recent year available.	Finance	2	19	Information provided.
1617/FOI/022	Request for information relating to any contracts for the purchase and supply to patients of paracetamol, ibuprofen, aspirin and codeine phosphate.	Other	1	1	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/023	Request for study documentation relating to 15/SC/0629 - A Phase I open-label study to assess the safety, tolerability and potential efficacy of a novel tracheal replacement consisting of a tissue engineered de-cellularised tracheal scaffold with seeded autologous mesenchymal stem cells in subjects with severe tracheal stenosis or malacia.	RES	1	7	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.
1617/FOI/024	Request for information relating to the private branch exchange, NHS mail and Microsoft Licensing Agreement.	IT	1	2	Information provided.
1617/FOI/025	Request for information relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Points for electric vehicles.	Other	1	1	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/026	Request for information relating to the total number of data protection breaches in 2015/16 and 2016/17 and any action taken / lessons learnt.	Corporate	1	8	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/027	Request for the study documentation relating to Google DeepMind's applications 15/SC/0693 - Using machine learning to improve prediction of acute kidney, 16/SC/0189 - Applying machine learning to automated segmentation of head and neck tumour volumes and organs at risk on medical images including computed tomography and REC application 16/LO/0641.	RES	0	20	Information provided with redactions applied. FOIA exemptions Section 43 trade secrets and prejudice to commercial interests and Section 22 - information intended for future publication were applied along with personal identifiable information being redacted prior to release.
1617/FOI/028	Request for information relating to contracts regarding facilities management including air conditioning, cleaning services and property maintenance.	Estates	0	11	Information provided
1617/FOI/029	Request for the protocol and approval letter for REC reference 16/EE/0200: 'The effectiveness and acceptability of two urine collection devices that aim to reduce contaminated urine samples in women presenting with symptoms of urinary tract infection. A three arm trial in UK primary care.'	RES	1	19	Information provided with redactions applied. Protocol withheld under FOIA exemption section 22 - Information intended for future publication.
1617/FOI/030	Request for details regarding what information is held for 07/H1102/65 - Multi-centre randomised control trial evaluating the use of Polypropylene Mesh versus traditional (fascial) repair for anterior vaginal wall prolapse.	RES	1	20	Information provided
1617/FOI/031	Request for copies of annual reports, business plans and strategies for 2016/17.	Corporate	2	9	FOIA exemption Section 21 - information already reasonably accessible applied (links provided to documentation on website)
1617/FOI/032	Request for information in relation to the manufacturer used, licence expiry and licence cost including duration for IT security areas within the organisation.	IT	1	19	Information provided - null response. Referred to ATOS / Open Service.
1617/FOI/033	Request for details of any contracts for IT / ICT training held with a particular training company.	IT	2	19	Information provided - null response.
1617/FOI/034	Request for information in relation to the manufacturer used, licence expiry and licence cost including duration for IT security areas within the organisation.	IT	0	13	Information provided - null response. Referred to ATOS / Open Service.
1617/FOI/035	Request for minutes and all correspondence in relation to the 'Comparison of adaptive pacing therapy, cognitive behaviour therapy, graded exercise therapy, and specialist medical care for chronic fatigue syndrome (PACE): a randomised trial'.	RES	2	14	Information no longer held. Paper copy of study destroyed and minimal information held on HARP as 2002 study. End of study form shared (with personal information redacted) plus a screenshot confirming destruction after 3 years of study ending as per policy.
1617/FOI/036	Request for details of how much of health funding goes towards mental health research, which age group is more likely to be diagnosed with anxiety disorder or depression and whether students at university are more likely to suffer from anxiety and depression than someone who did not go to university and now works a full-time job.	Other	1	2	Information not held
1617/FOI/037	Request for study documentation and REC correspondence relating to the MARS clinical trial, REG reference 07/H1102/95.	RES	3	20	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.
1617/FOI/038	Request for all documentation relating to 'Evaluating the net effects of extending the age range for breast screening in the NHS Breast Screening Programme in England from 50-70 years to 47-73 years' (REC reference 10/H0710/9) since 20 March 2015.	RES	4	19	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.
1617/FOI/039	Request for all information held regarding 2 studies - study 07/Q2006/48 and study 14/NW/0242.	RES	0	20	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.

1617/FOI/040	Request for the grades for the following positions: - Records Manager (or equivalent) - Subject Access/Access to Health Records Manager	HR		0	0	Information not held
1617/FOI/041	Withdrawn	N/A	N/A	N/A		
1617/FOI/042	Request for all information held relating to three studies, 15/YH/0536, 16/LO/0421, 16/LO/1457 which relate to subjects with Alcohol-Induced Liver Decompensation.	RES		3	56	Information provided in part with redactions applied. FOI exemptions section 41 - information provided in confidence and section 43 - commercial interests applied. Personal identifiable information removed. Requester notified that information would not be provided within 20 day time limit and kept informed throughout process. Delay to release of documentation due to Christmas period and discussions with sponsor prior to release of information.
1617/FOI/043	Request for the REC meeting minutes in relation to 16/SW/0268	RES		0	10	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.
1617/FOI/044	Request for information as to whether the CAG has ever been consulted in relation to the activities of the Private Healthcare Investigation Order 2014, issued by Competition & Marketing Authority (CMA) and any relevant documentation.	CAG		0	10	Information provided - null response.
1617/FOI/045	Request for information relating to the HRA's BACS payment and direct debit collection software.	Finance		4	12	Information provided - null response. Outsourced to third party.
1617/FOI/046	Request for information pertaining to the HRA's telephone system.	IT		2	17	Information provided.
1617/FOI/047	Request for information relating to translation / interpretation services used for the last four financial years.	Other		4	4	Information provided - null response
1617/FOI/048	Request for a copy of the REC policy document as detailed under section 112(3) of the Care Act 2014	RES		2	17	FOIA exemption Section 21 applied – information already reasonably accessible. However links provided to GAfREC and SOPs on website.
1617/FOI/049	Request for copies of annual reports, business plans and strategies for 2016/17.	Corporate		1	1	Information not provided. Section 14(2) exemption applied - identical or substantially similar request received from the same individual (substantially similar request to 1617/FOI/031).
1617/FOI/050	Request for information relating to contracts for photocopiers, multi-functional devices and desktop printers.	IT		3	19	Information provided.
1617/FOI/051	Request for the London Chelsea REC meeting minutes for March and April 2016.	RES		1	9	Information provided. Personal identifiable information removed.
1617/FOI/052	Request for any information held relating to breast ironing such as statistics on number of girls who have been subjected to this abuse and any long term effects.	RES		3	3	Information not held. Reviewed Research Summaries database and HARP however no relevant information identified.
1617/FOI/053	Request for details on the number of clinical trial applications made between 2010-2016	RES		1	10	Information provided via link to REC annual reports.
1617/FOI/054	Request for information relating to the number of staff found to have falsified CVs / job applications in 2015 and 2016.	HR		1	10	Information provided - null return
1617/FOI/055	Request for information relating to the following products: Swalloweze (a thickening powder for dietary management of dysphagia) Altrashot (a high energy, low volume oral nutritional supplement)	RES		1	1	Information not held - unable to identify any studies from details provided. Additional clarification was sought and received but did not help identify any relevant applications.