

## Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

<b>File reference</b>	W20FOI386
<b>Key words</b>	Reported SARS-COV2 Cases Confirmed by PCR Tests
<b>Date of release</b>	24/12/2020
<b>Attachments</b>	No

### You asked

Please provide details of the following:

1. **Confirmation that all reported cases of SARS-COV2 in your Trust have been diagnosed and confirmed by PCR test;**

Yes

2. **If not with a PCR test, provide details of what method was employed to confirm the presence of SARS-COV2;**

Not Applicable

3. **Details of the laboratories performing the PCR tests producing the confirmation of SARS-COV2 on behalf of your Trust;**

Not Applicable

4. **Details of the Ct thresholds currently employed in the PCR tests performed by the labs at 3.;**

Abbott : 40 cycles  
Qiagen: 40 cycles  
Cepheid: 45 cycles  
Elitech: 45 cycles

5. **Details of the Ct thresholds used to confirm all reported cases of SARS-COV2 in your Trust between 01/01/2020 and 18/12/2020;**

As question 4

6. **Details of the manufacturers of the PCR tests used to confirm the presence of SARS-COV2 in your Trust;**

As question 4

7. **In the document "Understanding cycle threshold (Ct) in SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR" published on the UK government website, page 7 includes the**

statement "Some commercial RT-PCR techniques are closed 'black box' systems whereby the operator cannot observe the reaction in real-time and the result is interpreted by software into a qualitative non-interrogatable positive or negative result." Please confirm which manufacturers have been engaged that employ such a 'black box' method, which labs have used such a manufacturer, and which results confirming the presence of SARS-COV2 in the UK have been based on such techniques;

Not applicable as RT PCR graphs are visible allowing interrogation and interpretation

8. Where such results have been produced using the 'black box' method, please describe what further action was taken to confirm the results produced by the 'black box' method.

Not Applicable

**Attachments included:** No