



**Wrightington,  
Wigan and Leigh**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Information Governance**

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Ref: FOI2017/3890  
Date Received: 5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2017  
Response Due: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear

**INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

You asked:

***Accident and Emergency***

- 1. As of April 2010, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust (including predecessor Trusts)*
- 2. As of March 2011, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust (including predecessor Trusts)*
- 3. As of April 2017, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust*

*Please split the figures for questions 1-3 into overnight beds and day-only beds. This request includes beds that were temporarily unavailable.*

The Trust does not have A and E Beds

- 4. Please list any Accident and Emergency wards or units that have been permanently closed since April 2010. Please state how many A&E beds they included at point of closure.*
- 5. Please provide the business case or management report/review underpinning each closure listed in response to question 4*
- 6. Please list any Accident and Emergency wards or units that have been permanently opened since April 2010. Please state how many A&E beds they include.*

*In this request, Accident and Emergency beds, wards and units are those whose primary usage is for Accident and Emergency cases.*

None. As there have been none closed, there isn't a business case or report for to understand the outcome.

*7. What is the Trust's policy on treating overseas patients who are eligible to be charged upfront for care but are not able or willing to pay upfront?*

An invoice is raised and if no payment is received, the debt is forwarded to a debt management agency

*8. What is the Trust's policy on upfront charging for overseas patients where it is not possible to establish the cost of care upfront? –*

There is an estimate of charges based on national tariff (no complication normal pathway)

*9. What is the Trust's policy towards clinical staff who refuse to enforce upfront payment?*

The consultants/medical staff complete a DoH disclaimer form confirming they have treated an overseas chargeable visitor

*10. What is the Trust's policy on identifying which patients need to be asked for proof of residency in relation to upfront charging, and what form does that proof take?*

All patients are asked a baseline question by staff

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Foster  
Chief Executive

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF