

**Information Governance Department**

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Ref: FOI2015/2527  
Date Received: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015  
Response Due: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015

7<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Dear ,

## INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request that your Trust provides me with the following information:

In January 2015 The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published draft recommendations on minimum ratios concerning safe staffing for nursing in A&E departments. The draft recommendations were:

- 2 registered nurses to 1 patient in cases of major trauma or cardiac arrest
- 1 registered nurse to 4 cubicles in either 'majors' or 'minors'.

The guidance can be accessed here: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/gid-accidentandemergencysettings/resources/accident-and-emergency-departments-guideline-consultation3>

- a) *In line with the above, please could you state whether the Type 1 Major A&E departments within your Trust were meeting the above ratios at the time when the draft guidance was published in January 2015 (please provide figures by Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE)).*

There are 2 registered nursing staff allocated to resuscitation area each shift. Staff are moved flexibly around the department depending on patient dependency and skill mix of nursing staff. In majors registered staff are allocated 1 nurse to 5 patients with a senior sister co-ordinating and overseeing care. In minor injuries department there are 2 RN and 2 ENP overseeing 8 cubicles.

- b) *Please could you state whether you have plans in place to meet the above recommendations?*

Staffing levels are currently being reviewed in line with the draft recommendations and the publication of A&E Safe Staffing Levels.

- c) *Please could you state the average number of FTE registered nurses that were on duty in your Type 1 Major A&E department during the a) day b) night. Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.*

Chairman: Robert Armstrong  
Chief Executive: Andrew Foster CBE

In January 15 during the day the number of worked hours in registered staff on the A&E roster was 3670

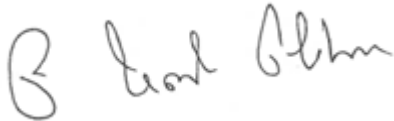
In January 15 during the night the number of worked hours in registered staff on the A&E roster was 2728.42

- d) *Please could you also state the average number of cubicles there are in your Type 1 Major A&E departments during the a) day b) night? Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.*

16 cubicles in Majors 24 hrs a day

I hope you find this information useful, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 256335. 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,



**Umesh Prabhu**

**Acting Chief Executive and Medical Director**

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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, WrightingtonHospital, Hall Lane, AppleyBridge, 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