

Ref: FOI/2024/9889

Date Received: 28th May 2024

Response Due: 25th June 2024

Date: 21st June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 28th May 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

1. The number of people at your NHS Trust who waited for 24-hours or longer from decision to admit to being admitted in each financial year since 2018/19

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

2. The number of people at your NHS Trust aged 65 or over who waited for 24-hours or longer from decision to admit to being admitted in each financial year since 2018/19

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

3. The longest a patient waited from decision to admit to being admitted in the past financial year

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act as releasing this information could make the patient identifiable.

4. The longest a patient aged 65 or over waited from decision to admit to being admitted in the past financial year.

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act as releasing this information could make the patient identifiable.

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and

b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Paritosh Desai
Divisional Director of Operations & Performance (Medicine)

PLEASE NOTE:

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, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111