

Information Governance

Wrightington Hospital
Hall Lane
Appley Bridge
Lancashire
WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 256284
Email: FOI@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI2019/5610

Date Received: 14th August 2019

Response Due: 12th September 2019

29th August 2019

Dear

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2001 to request the following information.

This information is in respect of your contingency planning for a “No Deal” Brexit that is forecast for 31 October 2019.

My interest is not in the efficiency of your planning. My interest lies in better understanding how you are predicting the consequences on a No Deal Brexit on 31 October. The information I request is set out below.

1. The contingency planning instructions and assumptions you have received from the Department of Health, and/or NHS England, and/or any other body;

The Trust has received planning guidance from NHSE which has advised on a number of areas which the Trust should review. This guidance is publically available and covers areas such as supplies of clinical and non-clinical goods and services, workforce and arrangements for EU visitors accessing health care. The Trust has followed this guidance and continues to prepare in accordance with this.

2. Any separate instructions from any of the above entities you have received in respect of the release of such plans or parts thereof to the public;

The Trust has not received any direct specific instructions on what to make public. The risk assessment and plans have previously been submitted to the Trust Board and are therefore available to the public.

3. Copies of any contingency plans or draft plans you have so far prepared.

The Trust has reviewed the potential impact of the risks identified and at present has no specific contingency plans in relation to the impact of EU exit.

4. If these plans are not available in full, then details will suffice covering:

- 1. Estimates of likely cancelled elective surgery over the period 1 November 2019 to 31 October 2020, or the period for which you have made forecasts;**
- 2. Estimates in changes in waiting times over your current waiting times for:
 - I. Cancer diagnosis;**
 - II. The commencement of cancer treatment;**
 - III. The impact on A&E services including changes you anticipate in meeting A&E response times;**
 - IV. Your broad estimates of total avoidable deaths (or changes in forecast death rates) that can be attributed to your anticipated changes to service levels.****

The Trust does not anticipate any impact on the identified measures as a result of EU Exit.

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

PLEASE NOTE:

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. You must ensure you gain their permission before reproducing any third party information.

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