



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-707

Date: 14th April 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 6th March 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding DTOC.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Under the FOI Act please provide me with the information below.

The number of inpatients who are currently medically fit to leave hospital in your area, but still reside there.

Please provide this as a series of data points for the last calendar year and the year to date, broken down by day. For each day, please break the data into further categories which detail the reason behind the delayed discharge.

I am aware that some of the data showing the total number of delayed transfers of care is published here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/discharge-delays-acute-data/> however I am looking for further information relating to the cause of the discharge delay.

For example, the Welsh Government also used to publish a detailed breakdown of reasons behind delayed discharge - <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/NHS-Performance/Delayed-Transfers-of-Care>

By way of illustration, a response may look like this:

01/01/22 - 100 people awaiting discharge, 20 awaiting physiotherapy, 30 awaiting transport home, 50 awaiting care packages
02/01/22 - 90 people awaiting discharge, 15 awaiting physiotherapy, 30 awaiting transport home, 45 awaiting care packages

And so on....



Please provide this data in a spread sheet format such as excel or a .csv file, with columns for the date, total number of patients and reasons for delay.

A1 UHNM does not collate this information on a daily level, in order to collate this it would require us to check all patient records: section 12 exemption as detailed below:

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Note: we do hold monthly information, and could potentially supply the information as a total for each month, please note we only have Jan – 12th November, please submit a new request if this is what you would like

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records