

File reference	W16FOI519
Key words	Delayed discharges
Date of release	03/01/2017
Attachments	No

Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

You asked

The following freedom of information act request is about delayed discharges from hospital.

In two of the questions we ask for information collected on 28th September, 2016. This date has been chosen because it is the most recent data collection day for NHS England.

When giving reasons for the delay in discharging a patient, please chose one of the ten categories used by NHS England – awaiting completion of assessment, awaiting public funding, awaiting further non-acute NHS care, awaiting residential home placement or availability, awaiting care package in own home, awaiting community equipment and adaptations, patient or family choice, disputes or housing.

If you record it differently please supply information using the official categories for your nation.

- 1) Please state the five longest delays (in days) which patients who were ready for discharge, have had before they were able to leave the hospital during the period 1st April 2014 to 31st September 2016.**

For each of these delayed discharges, please state:

- i) The age of the person concerned.**
- ii) The original reason for admission to hospital.**
- iii) The reason for the delayed discharge.**
- iv) The date on which the patient was ready for discharge.**
- v) The date on which they were in fact discharged.**

Please refer to the legal notes below.

- 2) **Please state how many patients, who were ready for discharge, had to wait 28 days or more to leave the hospital.
Please break these figures down by the cause of the delay.**

Please provide this information for the following financial years:

- i) 2014/15
- ii) 2015/16
- iii) 2016/17 to date

Please refer to the legal notes below

- 3) **On the day of the 28th September 2016, please state:**

- i) **The five longest waits in days that patients ready for discharge had had as of this date.**

Please refer to the legal notes below.

- ii) **For each of these waits, please state the age of the person concerned and the reason for their admission.**

Please refer to the legal notes below.

- iii) **For each of these waits, please state the reason for the delay.**

Please refer to the legal notes below.

- 4) **Please state how much your trust spent on delayed discharges in each of the following financial years.**

- i) 2011/12
- ii) 2012/13
- iii) 2013/14
- iv) 2014/15
- v) 2015/16
- vi) 2016/17 to date.

Please refer to the legal notes below.

- 5)

- i) **On the 28th September 2016, how many of your acute beds were occupied by people who were ready for discharge?**

Number of delays on 28th Sept = 31

- ii) **What proportion of your overall number of acute beds were being used by people who were ready for discharge?**

Number of occupied beds = 791*, so 3.9%

The 791 is an occupancy figure based on cohorts of patients defined by DOH of which to calculate the delays ratio.

- iii) **Have you had to open extra transitional, reablement or similar beds to meet the additional demand caused by delayed discharges?**

The Trust has opened additional beds at time of need, but cannot confirm that these were opened due to demand caused by delayed discharges.

- iv) **If yes, please state how many beds and the cost of providing these.**

Not applicable, please see our response to Q5 iii above.

Legal notes

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust is confirming in accordance with section 1 (a) of the Act that it holds the information requested unless otherwise specified. It however does not hold the information requested in any collated and validated format for Plymouth Hospitals patients as a distinct group. The information the Trust holds is in an electronic form and comes from three different teams that care for patients within distinct catchment areas namely, Plymouth, Devon (Other referrals outside Plymouth) and Cornwall. We would need to compare the electronic data we hold, with our clinical records in order to identify the information, you have requested and this cannot currently be achieved within the limit specified in the Act – Please refer to the rationale below.

We could not locate, extract and collate this information within the limitations of the Act. It is therefore considered exempt from supply in accordance with section 12(1)

of the Act – Request exceeds the appropriate limit by virtue of section 13.-(1)(a) –
The Cost of Compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

Rationale

This estimate is based on the fact that it would take more than thirty minutes to locate, extract and collate patient record information for each patient, assuming they were available and it was appropriate to do so. We would then need to cross-reference the clinical notes information with several other data systems records filtering the pertinent data. As we cannot extract patient figures, our accountants could not identify the cost information requested.

The Trust is working with other health providers in Devon to establish a preferred methodology for recording and filtering such information, but at this time, we are unable to extract much of the data requested.

Section 10

As part of our internal quality control review process, we have noted that we did not respond within the timeframe and for this, we apologise. If you wish to take the matter further, please refer to the satisfaction section of this reply letter.

Attachments included: No