

Date: Monday, 29th November 2021
Our Ref: MB/SS FOI 4956

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4956

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 17th November 2021.

Your request was as follows:

We are undertaking a review of hospitals within the UK to see if superstition plays any role in the numbering of bed spaces or wards; focusing on the number 13. We would like to know the following:

- Do any of the hospitals within your trust have numbered wards? If so, which?
- o Of these hospitals, do any have a ward numbered 13? If so, which?
- o Additionally, these hospitals with numbered wards, are there wards numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a ward 13) If so, which hospitals?

[The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust \(WCFT\) does not have numbered wards.](#)

- Do the wards in your hospitals have numbered bed spaces? If so, which?
- o Of these hospitals, do any of the wards have a bed space 13? If so, which?
- o Additionally, these hospital wards with numbered bed spaces, are there bed spaces numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a bed space 13) If so, which hospitals?

[In WCFT all wards, Cairns, Caton, Chavasse, Dott, Sherrington, Horsley \(ITU\) and Jefferson day ward, plus Lipton and CRU both are Rehab wards have numbered bed spaces.](#)

[Horsley - side room 13, CRU - side room 13, Chavasse - side room 13](#)

[The following wards are not referred to as bed space 13 but are numbered on PAS the electronic system used - Sherrington \(Bay 5 Bed 1 is bed 13\), Caton \(Bay 5 Bed 1 is bed 13\), Cairns \(Bay 4 Bed 6 is bed 13\), Dott \(Bay 4 Bed 5 is bed 13\), Lipton \(Bay 5 Bed 3 is bed 13\)](#)

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in

line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4956 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information