

Date: Wednesday, 08th February 2023
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 5525

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5525

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 11th January 2023.

Your request was as follows:

In part 1, if these numbers are only available for patients who have not been identified as having learning disabilities, that is acceptable.

1. The total number of deaths considered more likely than not to have occurred due to problems in care in the trust for each quarter for which records are available.

I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

Section 40 (2) - Third Party Data

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), due to the minimal number of patients/staff identified as data requested is relating to 1-5 patients/staff members. In answering your query may lead to the undue stress of families and patients/staff as this information may still lead to patients/staff being identified. Therefore, this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test. This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

2. The highest number of days of delayed discharge in your trust in of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022

I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust only holds monthly aggregated reportable delayed days, the figures below are the month with the highest number of delayed days for each of the requested years:-

2018 - 401 delayed days

2019 - 560 delayed days

2020 - 632 delayed days

2021 - 379 delayed days

2022 - 282 delayed days

3. The longest waiting time recorded in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 for a patient to receive the result of each of the following diagnostic tests:

Magnetic Resonance Imaging test (MRI)

Echocardiogram



Non-obstetric ultrasound

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not hold the information you have requested. Therefore we cannot provide this information.

Under the FOIA, we are not required to create this information in order to answer your request. I should explain that the FOIA is to do with transparency of information held by public authorities. It gives an individual the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. The FOIA does not require public authorities to generate information, or to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information that they already hold.

4. The longest period of time that a patient spent on a waiting list for a non urgent operation in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. For each year, please also include, if possible, which category of operation is concerned.

2018 - 222 days

2019 - 200 days

2020 - 137 days

2021 - 106 days

2022 - 54 days

5. The numbers of patients removed from outpatient or elective care waiting lists with a removal reason of death, for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

2018 - 957

2019 - 1033

2020 - 1293

2021 - 1197

2022 - 1402

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 5525 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