

Date: Monday, 14th August 2023
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5838

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5838

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 20th July 2023.

Your request was as follows:

1. Did your Trust alter or update its visitor policy in response to Covid-19, yes or no?

a. If yes, what changes were introduced?

b. If yes, are any of those policies still in place?

i. If yes, which of those policies are still in place?

1. Did your Trust alter or update its visitor policy in response to Covid-19, yes or no? - Yes

a. If yes, what changes were introduced? - Guidance developed in partnership with NHSE/I and Directors of Nursing/Chief Nurses in Cheshire & Merseyside

b. If yes, are any of those policies still in place? - No

i. If yes, which of those policies are still in place? - N/A

2. Does the Trust currently have any visitation policies that:

a. Would prevent a patient from receiving a visitor?

i. If yes, in what wards or circumstances does this apply?

ii. If yes, were these restrictions in place before March 2020?

b. Set a restriction on the number of different people able to visit a patient during their stay

i. If yes, in what wards or circumstances would the number of different people visiting a patient be restricted?

ii. If yes, how many different people do these restrictions permit as visitors?

iii. If yes, were these restrictions in place before March 2020?

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust do not have a stand-alone policy relating to restricting patient visitors. During the Covid-19 period the Trust followed the national guidance.

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 5838 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 by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information