

Clatterbridge Road Bebington Wirral CH63 4JY

Tel: 0151 556 5000 Web: www.clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk

Date: 9 September 2019

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 223 - 2019

Thank you for your email dated the 9th August 2019, requesting information regarding discharge summaries.

The information that you require is as follows:

1. For each time period, how many discharge summaries were sent to GP practices after 24 hours of a discharge of a patient? i.e how many discharge summaries were delayed in sending to GPs? This counts for outpatient, inpatient, day case and A&E care.

The first covering the time period 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2015

Following a scoping exercise completed by our Information Team, it has become evident that in order to meet the full requirements of this question, there would be a significant impact on both time and workload within the Trust. This information is not held centrally and would therefore require a member of staff to manually check each individual patient for the time period and extract the information requested. It is estimated that this would take far in excess of 18 hours.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the 'appropriate limit', which for local authorities is £450, or 18 hours (at £25 per hour). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.5 working days locating the documents that contain the information and extracting the relevant information containing it. This would take considerable time and cost which we estimate will exceed the "appropriate limit".

The second covering the time period 1st January 2016 – 31st December 2016

182

The third covering the time period 1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017

179

The fourth covering the time period 1st January 2018 – 31st December 2018

255

2. For each time period, how many discharge summaries included planned and requested actions for GPs?

The first covering the time period 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2015

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The second covering the time period 1st January 2016 – 31st December 2016

182

The third covering the time period 1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017

179

The fourth covering the time period 1st January 2018 – 31st December 2018

255

3. How many consultant to consultant (C2C) referrals were made in each time period?

The first covering the time period 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2015

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The second covering the time period 1st January 2016 – 31st December 2016

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The third covering the time period 1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017

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The fourth covering the time period 1st January 2018 – 31st December 2018

Following a scoping exercise completed by our Information Team, it has become evident that in order to meet the full requirements of this question, there would be a significant impact on both time and workload within the Trust. This information is not held centrally and would therefore require a member of staff to manually check each individual patient for the time period and extract the information requested. It is estimated that this would take far in excess of 18 hours.

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Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Version: 1.0 Ref: ECGMFOIRE Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and 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: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

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

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