



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9

Buckingham Row

Brick Kiln Lane

Wigan

WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10338

Date Received: 26th November 2024

Response Due: 24th December 2024

Date: 23rd December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26th November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with information on A&E waits from decision to admit to admission.

1. The number of 24-hour A&E delays from decision to admit to admission in the months March to November including the months March and November for each year since March 2019 to November 2023

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

2. The number of 24-hour A&E delays from decision to admit to admission in the months December to February including the months December and February for each year since December 2019 to February 2024

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

3. The proportion of A&E waits that were 24-hours or longer from decision to admit to admission in the months March to November including the months March and November for each year since March 2019 to November 2023

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

4. The proportion of A&E waits that were 24-hours or longer from decision to admit to admission in the months December to February including the months December and February for each year since December 2019 to February 2024.

The Trust is unable to answer this question as we record DTA's in 12 hours not 24 hours. Therefore, the information you have requested is not centrally recorded, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

5. The longest A&E wait from decision to admit to admission in the months March to November 2024

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act as releasing this information could make the patient identifiable.

6. The longest A&E wait from decision to admit to admission in the months December 2023 and February 2024

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act as releasing this information could make the patient identifiable.

Could all of these questions be broken down between all waits and those aged over 65.

Could all these questions also be broken down by ECDS coding:

- 1. Immediate emergency care**
- 2. Very urgent emergency care**
- 3. Urgent emergency care**
- 4. Standard emergency care**
- 5. Low acuity emergency care**

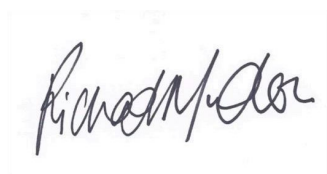
Please note the longest waiters are being withheld under section 40(2) (personal information) of the Act. This is because releasing this information would make individual patients identifiable.

Section 40(2) is an 'absolute' exemption, and the Trust is not obliged to consider whether the public interest favours disclosing the information.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of the information would, amongst other things, contravene one of the data protection principles in Article 5 of the UK GDPR. In this case, I believe disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Mundon', is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Richard Mundon
Deputy Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111