

Information Governance

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26 April 2023

Our reference: FOI DA4603

I am responding to your request for an internal review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received on 29th March 2023. This was regarding our response to your original request of 17th February 2023 which was disclosed to you on 22nd March 2023.

I confirm that I have now undertaken a review of your request and am enclosing an updated response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Kitchener
Associate Director of Information Governance and Data Protection Officer

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention



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Request: I am writing to request an internal review of East London NHS Foundation Trust's handling of my FOI request 'In-patient mental health bed closures'.

I am shocked at your response.

If it takes you more than 18 hours to comply with this relatively simple request then you must have pretty poor recording systems for this information and only reaffirms the notion that the ward structures/bed allocation etc. is notoriously badly recorded across the NHS.

Is there no way of an absolutely obvious and quick means of locating, retrieving or extracting the information?

I note that you have included the time required for administering this request, ie considering the exemption or redacting parts of the information, in your calculation. ICO advice indicates that this activity does not fall within the list of activities which are permitted to be included (see

[https://qbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fico.org.uk%2Fmedia%2Ffor-organisations%2Fdocuments%2F1199%2Fcosts_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf&data=05%7C01%7Celft.foi%40nhs.net%7C59a7138bb6c843dc479008db305e2a1c%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638156953230140524%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoicMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwlcjVXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=oQyZI0cMbLqQ2yDrEnsny4CFS%2FB4c1Rx7NgeQxMzWME%3D&reserved=0\).](https://qbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fico.org.uk%2Fmedia%2Ffor-organisations%2Fdocuments%2F1199%2Fcosts_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf&data=05%7C01%7Celft.foi%40nhs.net%7C59a7138bb6c843dc479008db305e2a1c%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638156953230140524%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoicMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwlcjVXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=oQyZI0cMbLqQ2yDrEnsny4CFS%2FB4c1Rx7NgeQxMzWME%3D&reserved=0).)

For this reason I believe the exemption is invalid, and request that you review your response.

In the last 10 years, please could you state:

Question 1: How many wards have been closed by your Trust in total?

Original Answer:

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over 18 hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the 18-hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to review historical records and contracts, estimated to take three days to complete.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450, which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate



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of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Updated Answer:

Our original application of Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 still applies. Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over 18 hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the 18-hour timeframe.

As previously advised, we are not able to confirm within the eighteen hour cost limit how many wards have been permanently closed. This information is not held in one central system. To provide this information we would need to determine the wards closed as part of a contractual obligation, service redesign or estates revision. This would require the Trust to undertake manual searches of numerous databases and records to determine this. We estimate this would take three days to complete.

Nonetheless, in an effort to assist, we are able to confirm that 41 wards were closed over the last ten years. We have taken this data from our clinical systems. Please note these are not permanent closures as our clinical systems do not provide this level of detail. The 41 closed wards therefore include those that may have been permanently closed, temporarily closed, relocated, renamed or have had a change in clinical function.

Question 2: Please list names of the wards closed, describe if they were adult/ old age/ forensic etc; their location and specify the number of bed lost with each of these wards?

Original Answer:

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over 18 hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the 18-hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to review historical records and contracts, estimated to take three days to complete.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450, specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per



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hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Updated Answer:

Although S12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not oblige an organisation to provide a response to any question where the total response would take over eighteen hours to provide, in an effort to be helpful, please see table below which shows all wards closed. Please note the table includes all closures as we are not able to identify permanent closures from the data centrally held.

Ward Name	Ward type	Location	No. of Beds
Archer Unit	Adult	Archer Unit, Bedford Health Village	24
Bedford MH Assessment Unit	Adult	Calnwood Road	7
Chaucer Ward	Adult	Weller Wing	15
Fountain Court	Adult	Calnwood Road	4
Keats Ward	Adult	Weller Wing	17
The Coppice	Adult	The Glade	7
Townsend Court	Adult	Townsend Court	9
Whichellos Wharf	Adult	The Elms	16
Cazaubon	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	23
Cazaubon Unit	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	23
Bevan Low Secure Ward	Adult	City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health	3
Cedar Lodge	Older People	Cedar Lodge	15
Larch Lodge	Older People	Larch Lodge	15
Ruth Seifert Ward	Adult	City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health	5
Fothergill Unit	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	28
East India Ward	Forensics	John Howard Centre	16
Morrison Ward	Forensics	John Howard Centre	16
Tariro House	Forensics	John Howard Centre	16
Woodbury (LD) Ward	Forensics	John Howard Centre	12
Jade Acute Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	16
Crystal Ward	Adult	Luton and Central Bedfordshire Mental Health Unit	16
Jade Ward	Adult	Luton and Central Bedfordshire Mental Health Unit	10
London Road	Adult	Luton and Central Bedfordshire Mental Health Unit	14
Jade Acute Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	16
Jade Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	17



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Ward Name	Ward type	Location	No. of Beds
Ruby Continuing Care Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	1
Ruby Sleepover	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	7
Sleepover Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	10
Sally Sherman Unit	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	2
Cazaubon	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	19
Columbia annex (Ivory ward)	Older People	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	7
Columbia Ward	Older People	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	21
Globe External Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Lea External Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Millharbour Low Secure Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	2
Roman External	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Rosebank Low Secure Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	5
Rosebank PICU Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	5
Ruby (Rosebank) Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	7
Thames House	Older People	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	18
The Green	Older People	Roger Dowley Court	16

Question 3: How many new wards were opened by your Trust in total?

Original Answer:

This question would take one hour to collate.

Updated Answer:

Although S12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not oblige an organisation to provide a response to any question where the total response would take over eighteen hours to provide, in an effort to be helpful, we are confirming that 45 wards were opened by the Trust in the last ten years.

Question 4: Please list names of the wards opened, describe if they were adult/ old age/ forensic etc, their location and specify the number of bed lost with each of these wards?

Original Answer:

This question would take one hour to collate.

Updated Answer:



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Although S12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not oblige an organisation to provide a response to any question where the total response would take over eighteen hours to provide, in an effort to be helpful, please see the table below showing how many wards have been opened in the last ten years:

Ward Name	Ward Type	Location	No. of Beds
Archer Unit	Adult	John Bunyan House	24
Ash Ward	Adult	Oakley Court	19
Bedford MH Assessment Unit	Adult	Bedford Hospital	7
Cedar House	Adult	Bedford Health Village	16
Chaucer Ward	Older People	Bedford Hospital	15
Fountain Court	Older People	Bedford Health Village	4
Fountains Court Acute	Older People	Bedford Health Village	26
Keats Ward	Adult	Bedford Hospital	17
The Coppice	Adult	2 The Glade	7
Townsend Court	Older People	Townsend Court	9
Townsend Court Adult	Adult	Townsend Court	20
Whichellos Wharf	Adult	The Elms	16
Willow Ward	Adult	Oakley Court	11
Evergreen	Child and Adolescent	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	8
Galaxy Ward	Child and Adolescent	Newham Centre for Mental Health	12
Cazaubon	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	23
Ruth Seifert Ward (Female)	Adult	City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health	5
Aldgate LD Ward	Forensics	Forensic Centre for Mental Health	12
Clerkenwell Ward	Forensics	Forensic Centre for Mental Health	16
Moorgate LD Ward	Forensics	Forensic Centre for Mental Health	2
Morrison Ward	Forensics	Forensic Centre for Mental Health	16
Woodberry Ward	Forensics	Wolfson House	12
Jade Acute Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	16
Coral Ward	Adult	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	26
Crystal Adult Ward	Adult	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	20
Crystal Ward	Older People	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	16
Jade PICU Ward	Adult	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	9
Jade Ward	Adult	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	10
London Road	Adult	London Road	14
Onyx Ward	Adult	Luton and Dunstable Hospital	20



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Ward Name	Ward Type	Location	No. of Beds
Poplars Ward	Older People	Townsend Court	18
Jade Acute Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	16
Ruby Sleepover	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	7
Ruby Triage Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	15
Sleepover Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	10
Sally Sherman Unit (Physical Health)	Adult	East Ham Care Centre	2
Cazaubon	Older People	East Ham Care Centre	19
Cazaubon (OLD)	Older People	East Ham Care Centre	19
Columbia annex (Ivory ward)	Older People	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	7
Globe External Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Lea External Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Roman External	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	4
Rosebank Ward	Adult	Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health	13
Ruby (Rosebank) Ward	Adult	Newham Centre for Mental Health	7
Thames House	Older People	Thames House	18



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