



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-594

Date: 21st February 2024

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 4th December 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding homeless admissions to ED

On 5th December we contacted you via email as we required a timeframe in order to collate the information

On the same day you replied via email with:

'I am a third year adult student nurse at Keele university and I am required to develop a hypothetical business case report for additional nursing care funding.

My idea is to introduce a homeless link nurses into Emergency Department (ED) who could then liaise with the appropriate agencies, for help & ongoing support, when a homeless person presents in ED.

I am requesting the following information since 2019'

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 How many homeless people present at the emergency department (ED)?

A1 We do not refer to patients as homeless, we refer to them as no fixed abode, this will include patients who are "sofa surfing", YMCA, hostels and living on the streets. To identify this cohort of patient we use the post code of ZZ99 3VZ.

https://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/data_elements/postcode.html#ariaid-title2

For the period 2019 to date (07/01/2024) there were 944 unique patients where the postcode was ZZ99 3VZ, this equated to 2391 ED admissions.

Q2 Is there a Link nurse within the hospital or in ED?

A2 Yes, Royal, there is a Homelessness Lead Nurse
County – Yes, there is a Homelessness Lead Nurse

Q3 What is the costing of treating a homeless person when they present. What are the ongoing costs?

A3 None

Q4 What is the reason why a homeless persons presents? Is it drug, alcohol reasons or others as well

A4 We do not record the reason why a person attends we only record the diagnoses made during the attendance, the below table shows the top 10 diagnosis identified during attendance:-

The data is based on the 2391 attendances and not the unique patients as the conditions identified during the attendance could be different for each attendance.

Diagnosis Code	Total Admission
No diagnosis recorded (blank)	520
No abnormality detected	247
Illicit drug use	132
Cellulitis	121
Alcohol intoxication	108
Overdose of opiate	66
Depressive disorder	60
Lower respiratory tract infection	42
Paracetamol overdose	36
Social problem	29

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records