

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-657

28 November 2022

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we hold some of the information you are requesting

In the period from 1 January 2019-10 November 2019, how many planned chemotherapy cycles for children were delayed by at least 24 hours due to hospital staffing issues or lack of bed availability? By this I mean planned in-patient chemotherapy treatments at the Bristol hospital for children. By staffing issues I mean lack of staff available to carry out or support the treatment or in-patient stay, including but not limited to nurses, doctors, healthcare assistants, pharmacists or ward support staff.

We do not hold this information. Delays due to hospital staffing issues/lack of bed availability are not recorded. There have been no cancellations to chemotherapy as children are admitted as soon as an in-patient bed is made available. Day case and outpatient chemotherapy remain unaffected.

2. In the period from 1 January 2022-10 November 2022, how many planned chemotherapy cycles for children were delayed by at least 24 hours due to hospital staffing issues or lack of bed availability? By this I mean planned in patient chemotherapy cycles at the Bristol hospital for children. By staffing issues I mean lack of staff available to carry out or support the treatment or in-patient stay, including but not limited to nurses, doctors, healthcare assistants pharmacists or ward support staff.

We do not hold this information. Delays due to hospital staffing issues/lack of bed availability are not recorded. There have been no cancellations to chemotherapy as children are admitted as soon as an in-patient bed is made available. Day case and outpatient chemotherapy remain unaffected.

3. On how many occasions from 10 November 2021 to 10 November 2022 has starlight ward had insufficient staffing levels? By this I mean less than the recommended number of nurses and healthcare assistants who should be working on the ward. The recommended number is usually written on the whiteboard on the wall of starlight ward, the trust may also refer to its own recommendations on staffing for starlight ward.

119.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, 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:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above 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 at:
Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust