

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-403

17 May 2024

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 do hold the information you are requesting

Please can we request the paediatric respiratory admission rates for the past five years, for each year individually, 2018 to 2023 inclusive, to each individual hospital in your trust.

Could this data be provided by hospital and also by age group, in the following categories 0-5 yrs, 6-12 yrs, 13-18 yrs.

Please see our response in the table below:

Admitting Hospital	Age Group	Admission Year					
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bristol Royal Hospital for Children	0-5	118	80	129	153	156	184
	6-12	106	72	76	105	87	100
	13-18	60	51	58	61	49	81
St Michael's Hospital	0-5	*	*	0	0	0	0

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

Please could we also request the paediatric respiratory presentations to A&E or urgent

care (where there has been no admission) to each individual hospital in your trust, also divided into the above age and year categories.

Please see our response in the table below. Please note that our system does not have a specific way to identify respiratory patients; the presenting complaint is a free text field and the data below is where there has been a description of 'airway/breathing'.

	Year						
Site	Age Group	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bristol Royal Hospital for Children	0-5	376	433	215	3751	4661	4167
	6-12	59	48	35	382	578	570
	13-18	20	18	12	88	147	125
Bristol Royal Infirmary	13-18	*	*	*	25	38	28
Weston General Hospital	0-5	0	0	6	244	342	380
	6-12	0	0	*	35	68	78
	13-18	0	0	*	25	37	39

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

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