

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-129

10 March 2025

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

I am writing to request detailed information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding ambulance drop-offs of elderly patients at A&E following falls over the two-year period from January 2023 to December 2024. I am specifically requesting data held by the A&E department related to ambulance arrivals, not ambulance service transportation data.

For each of the following data points, please provide a monthly breakdown for the years 2023 and 2024 (January 2023 - December 2024):

Total number of ambulance drop-offs of elderly patients following falls.

Breakdown of incidents by location type as reported by the ambulance crew upon arrival (e.g., private residence, care home, public place).

If possible, please specify, as reported by the ambulance crew upon arrival:

Specific address if a private residence (without personally identifiable details).

Name of the care home if applicable.

Name of the public place (e.g., "Morrisons Supermarket, [Location]").

If the location is unknown, please indicate "Location Unknown."

Incident location	2023	2024
Home	791	715
Hospital	*	0
Leisure / Sport Centre	0	*
Other	97	45
Public Place	24	23

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local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

Breakdown of dropped-off patients by age brackets (e.g., 65-74, 75-84, 85+).

Age group	2023	2024
65-74	145	110
75-84	326	307
85+	445	368

Breakdown of dropped-off patients by gender.

Sex	2023	2024
Female	488	424
Male	427	361

Total number of elderly fall-related ambulance drop-offs at each hospital within the trust/service area.

Site	2023	2024
Bristol Royal Infirmary	567	521
Weston General Hospital	349	264

Breakdown of the number of patients who have been dropped off by ambulance multiple times within the two-year period due to falls.

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Most common times of day or days of the week when fall-related ambulance drop-offs occur.

Day of week	2023	2024
Sunday	142	139
Thursday	144	122
Friday	131	111
Saturday	121	116
Monday	130	106
Wednesday	117	104
Tuesday	131	87

Any available data recorded by the A&E department on time of ambulance arrival at the hospital for fall-related incidents. This is not a request for ambulance service response times.

Hour of arrival	2023	2024
12:00	69	50
17:00	60	50
10:00	54	55
09:00	46	57
16:00	55	43
15:00	68	29
13:00	40	57
21:00	51	38
18:00	48	37
08:00	57	24
20:00	40	35
05:00	34	29
19:00	25	34
06:00	31	17
22:00	22	22
00:00	24	20
23:00	17	25
01:00	18	24
04:00	10	19
02:00	15	10
07:00	12	8

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