

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3178

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Service Centre
Maidstone Hospital
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone
Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

14 March 2016

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the number of patients who were treated in a private provider between 2011 and 2016.

- 1. How many elective procedures (or admissions) that were due to be carried out by your NHS trust were instead carried out by a private provider in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 to date?*
- 2. For the financial years stated above, what percentage of all elective procedures at your trust had to instead be carried out by a private provider?*
- 3. For the financial years stated above, what were the most common reasons given for a procedure to be carried out by a private provider – even though it was initially scheduled to be carried out in your hospital trust?*
- 4. For question 1 – and whether this is possible to reveal within the cost limits – which procedures were carried out by private providers?*

Over the same five year period Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust has increased the number of procedures it is carrying out by over 30%. This means that around 13,000 more patients a year are now able to have their operations through the NHS locally in our hospitals than they were five years ago. This is a significant success story, a welcome achievement and reflects advances in day surgery for the benefit of thousands of patients.

MTW Trust can and does use other providers, to carry out a small number of procedures, to maintain patient safety during surges in non-planned emergency medical admissions. This can account for between 1 and 2% of total procedures (day case and inpatient procedures) carried out.

1. and 2.

Please see the table below. Please note that this data relates to elective and day case procedures. The date range for this data is April 2011 to February 2016.

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	Total
Day Case Procedures outsourced	0	4	273	754	516	1547
% of day case procedures	0.00%	0.00%	0.80%	2.00%	1.40%	1.00%

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	Total
Elective procedures outsourced	0	6	114	239	401	760
% of elective procedures	0.00%	0.10%	1.40%	3.30%	6.20%	2.00%

3. This information is not held electronically and the Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

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