

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3192

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

05 May 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 Tunbridge Wells Hospital (TWH) at Pembury.

1 could you please advise the staffing levels in the ward's split between day and night and also weekends with again split of day and night. Could you break this down by consultants, doctors, sisters, charge nurses, other ward staff split between trained and untrained.

2 could you also advise how it is possible for a member of the family to speak to a consultant, Doctor, Sister about their loved one and their treatment and condition. Particularly if they cannot speak for themselves in their best interests either through illness or age.

3 I notice that the Pembury hospital not surprisingly is now going to add another ward which I think will have a capacity of 38 beds. When will this open. Where is the money coming from.

4 when the old Pembury and the old Tunbridge Wells hospitals closed down there was a loss of beds. I have been told by staff in the past that the numbers lost were 200. Is this true. If not what was the figure.

5 the old Pembury had a history of a large number of mental health beds involving three wards. Probably close on 60 beds. These all closed. They were not transferred to Maidstone as commissioners would like is to think. Maidstone already had two wards for mental-health purposes and this did not change. All that happened was that they gave one of the wards the name of Brocklehurst for expedient confusion. However to get to the point we know that over the last three years due to inadequacy of mental health beds the additional cost of placing out of area for mental health trust has come to the region of £18 million. It doesn't look as though the third ward of Maidstone is

having any material effect to contain bed usage for mental health to the local area.

At the point of closed down of the mental health beds the consequence of consultation was that 10 mental health beds would be preserved at Pembury. Without further consultation this was countermanded and scrapped. Given the opening of this new ward and the space that obviously exists in the hospital are any of the mental health beds going to be reinstated in Pembury.

1. Staffing levels differ for each ward and the figures for these can be found on the Trust website. <http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/safe-staffing-levels/>
2. Family members can usually meet with consultants either during or after the ward round, or if a more detail conversation is needed an appointment can be made via the nurse in charge of the ward. No detailed information can be shared with a family member without the permission of the patient, unless they have a lasting power of attorney to cover health and care decisions. Where the patient lacks capacity to make decisions, then a best interest meeting is usually held, which will include key family member/s.
3. The new ward at TWH opened on Saturday, 19 March. The money for this development was through the Capital Fund Programme.
4. It is difficult to answer this question accurately as there were many changes which were done in phases and changes were also made to Maidstone Hospital at that time as part of the re-configuration of services. However, looking back at the bedstock templates from before the move and after it our overall bedstock (general & acute, ITU and maternity) across the three sites decreased from 744 to 690 (-54). As at January 2016 the overall bedstock (general & acute, ITU, escalation and Maternity) is 835.
5. This question will need to be directed to Kent & Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust. Please use the following link to the website. <http://www.kmpt.nhs.uk/>