

Maidstone and 
Tunbridge Wells

NHS Trust

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4761

Please reply to:
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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 Supplier payments.

You asked:

1) What is the percentage of Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust suppliers paid within 5 days? (Please provide the numbers for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

2) What is the percentage of Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust suppliers paid within 30 days? (Please provide the numbers for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

3) Thinking about prompt payment of suppliers in general, what have been the biggest challenges for Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust in meeting the 5 working days goal for all government bodies?

4) Thinking about prompt payment of suppliers in general, what resources or structural changes does Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust needs the most to ensure higher rate of compliance with the 5 working days goal for all government bodies?

5) To the best of your knowledge, are there any specific services or products that can help with the prompt payment of suppliers and increase the overall percentage of invoices paid within the 5 working days goal?

Trust response:

1. & 2.

| Year | 5 days | 30 days |
|------|--------|---------|
| 2015 | 6.30% | 70.90% |
| 2016 | 7.40% | 54.70% |
| 2017 | 4.40% | 25.40% |

3) The biggest challenges are delays in waiting for managers to authorise the invoices or getting departments to receipt the goods so that the order and invoices can be match to enable payment

4) No additional resources but refreshing managers knowledge on the importance of either receipting goods or authorising invoices

5) We are not aware of any products or services that can assist with the chasing for authorisation of invoices. Our current Finance system does send electronic reminders and escalates items where a manager fails to act.