

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5135

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 Delayed discharge.

You asked:

1) How many delayed discharges from inpatient wards were recorded by your trust during the following date ranges (please break down the data into the date ranges specified below):

- a. 1st November 2017 to October 31st 2018*
- b. 1st November 2016 to October 31st 2017*
- c. 1st November 2015 to October 31st 2016*

2) What was the total amount of time spent by delayed discharge patients in hospital wards managed by your trust between patients being ready for transfer and the patients being fully discharged from hospital during the following date ranges (please break down the data into the date ranges specified below. Please use whichever time measurement is used by default by your trust):

- a. 1st November 2017 to October 31st 2018*
- b. 1st November 2016 to October 31st 2017*
- c. 1st November 2015 to October 31st 2016*

3) What is the average cost per day to your trust of a patient staying in hospital to your trust, excluding costs specific to their medical condition (i.e. the basic cost of providing a bed, food and care but excluding condition specific drugs, care or medical procedures)

4) Does your trust currently have a plan in place to reduce the delayed discharge of patients in the future?

Trust response:

Note:

Up to and including August 2018 our delayed transfers of care (DTC) data was collected weekly and gave us a snapshot of the patients delayed on a Thursday night. Until August 2018 the number of patients in the weekly snapshot was multiplied by seven to give an estimate of the number of bed days lost in the week. From September 2018 the Trust has been recording actual bed days lost each day.

Year	Q1: Delayed Patients	Q2: Bed days lost due to Delayed Transfers of Care
Nov 2015 to Oct 2016	950	15891
Nov 2016 to Oct 2017	1076	16086
Nov 2017 to Oct 2018	1061	11606

Q1) The number of delayed discharges from inpatient wards has been interpreted as the number of individual patients who have experienced a delayed discharge. Our delayed transfer of care data is stored by financial year (April to March) and each patient has been assigned to a month according to the last Thursday upon which they were delayed within the year. These months have then been grouped into the November to October years as required in the FOI request.

Please note that a few patients are delayed over the year end, e.g. from February to April, and would therefore be counted in both years.

Please also note that although the Thursday snapshot method of collecting DTOC data gave us a reasonable estimate of bed days lost, it was undercounting the actual number of patients affected by delayed transfers of care, in particular any patients who had brief delays of under a week. From September 2018 all patient delays have been recorded, even those of 1 or 2 days, and therefore more individual patients are included in the count.

Q2) The time spent by delayed discharge patients within the Trust, also known as bed days lost due to DTOC, is submitted as part of a national return every month. The above figures are the published totals.

3. We have based the answer on an Elderly Care (430) Non Elective Excess Bed Day as £297 per day.

This has been taken as the Average Cost for all activity undertaken for the specific specialty and reported in the 2017-18 Reference Cost submission which was publicly released last week.

4. Yes