

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6003

Please reply to: FOI Administrator

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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 Overnight medical staffing.

You asked:

- 1. I would like a list of all sites owned by the trust where patients may stay overnight.
- 2. How many beds are there on each site?
- 3. What is the training level of the most senior doctor who should be on site each night (e.g. FY1, FY2, ST1 etc)? If this varies between wards/departments, please provide details.
- 4. In the past year, how many times has the most senior doctor on site/ward overnight been at a lower training level than this, and what was their training level on each occasion?
- 5. In the past year, how many times has the most senior doctor on each site overnight been a locum?
- 6. On how many occasions was that locum at a lower training level than specified as ideal by trust policy?

Trust response:

1 & 2.

Site	No of normal beds available
Maidstone Hospital	310
Tunbridge Wells Hospital	456
Crowborough Birthing Unit	5

3.

ENT - Maidstone Hospital does not have On Call in ENT. The following information is for Tunbridge Wells Hospital ENT only. - Nights On Call covered 3 nights a week by a Nurse Practitioner. Once a week one of our Junior Drs covers the shift. They could be ST1, ST2 or F2 as all the junior Drs on rotation to ENT take a turn to cover the night on call.

Theatres & Critical Care – Standard shift patterns overnight Surgery - For General Surgery, the most senior doctor on site routinely is a Registrar (ST4 or above).

4.

ENT - Levels given above.

Theatres & Critical Care – Maidstone Hospital – SAS, Tunbridge Wells Hospital – SAS or Registrar

Surgery - On one occasion owing to the short notice cancellation of a locum registrar. The doctor who picked up the shift was an ST3 and discussion about the level of support was discussed with the on-call consultant.

ENT – Unable to give this information.

Theatres & Critical Care – None

Surgery - 358 night shifts have been covered by bank or agency doctors (105 agency, 253 bank).

6.

ENT – Unable to give this information

Theatres & Critical Care - None

Surgery - All bank and agency doctors are senior registrars with significant UK surgical experience