

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5950

Please reply to:
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Trust Management
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22 December 2020

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 A&E waiting times.

You asked:

- a) What is the longest period of time a patient has had to wait in A&E from decision to admit to admission in each of the past four financial years, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20*
- b) Was this wait experienced by an adult or a child patient?*
- c) What reason is given, if any, for the length of the wait?*

Trust response:

We regret the delay in responding to your request for information.

When reviewing the data extracted from our information systems in support of your request the Trust has identified a technical issue with the system used within the A&E department. This system does not hold sufficient information to enable the Trust to give validated information in response to your request.

This issue has meant that we are not able to differentiate between a technical waiting time breach resulting from an administrative process and a genuine waiting time breach in our reporting. Therefore without a records audit, it would not be possible to answer this with any confidence and we therefore regret to advise that we are unable to provide an accurate response to your enquiry at this time.

We are in the process of implementing a new electronic patient record system which will improve the data quality and completeness in the A&E Department.

Once again thank you for your enquiry.