

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6892

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

18 August 2021

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 NHS preparedness for winter.

You asked:

Could you please answer the questions below and when responding provide plans and as much detail as possible where required to demonstrate preparedness for autumn / winter 2021/22 - 1st October 2021 to 28th Feb 2022.

1) Has the trust increased the total General and Acute bed capacity? Please provide the total number of available General and Acute beds across the trust. This must include all physical beds than can be open, funded by commissioners and occupied for admitting elective and non-elective patients across all sites within the trust.

a) as at March 2020

b) as at July 2021

c) How many beds can be funded and open between 1st October 2021 and 28th Feb 2022 to cope with any surges in non-elective patients?

2) Has the trust increased the total ICU bed capacity? Please provide the total number of available ICU beds across the trust. This must include all physical ICU beds than can be open, funded by commissioners and occupied for admitting patients across all sites within the trust.

a) as at March 2020

b) as at July 2021

c) How many additional beds can be funded and open between 1st October 2021 and 28th Feb 2022 to cope with surges in non-elective patients?

Trust response:

1.

a. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to

you. The information you requested is available from:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/bed-availability-and-occupancy/>

b. Under Section 22 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to the request if the information is intended for future publication.

(1) Information is exempt information if—

(a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not),

(b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and

(c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

(2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would involve the disclosure of any information (whether or not already recorded) which falls within subsection (1).

The information requested will be available from

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/bed-availability-and-occupancy/>

c. H2 funding is still being confirmed and the Trust is working with the CCG on its Winter Plan. Currently the Trust has an additional 28 beds available for escalation from 1st October 2021.

2.

a. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available from:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/uec-sitrep/urgent-and-emergency-care-daily-situation-reports-2020-21/>

b. Under Section 22 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to the request if the information is intended for future publication.

(1) Information is exempt information if—

(a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not),

(b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and

(c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

(2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would involve the disclosure of any information (whether or not already recorded) which falls within subsection (1).

The information requested will be available from

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/uec-sitrep/>

c. Seven extra dependent on recruitment