

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7507

**Please reply to:**  
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06 July 2022

## **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 dog attacks and dog related injuries.

*You asked:*

- 1. Emergency department attendance for dog attacks and dog related injuries broken down by (calendar) year for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021*
- 2. A breakdown of the ages of patients in question 1 broken down by (calendar) year for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021*
- 3. Hospital admissions for dog attacks and dog related injuries broken down by (calendar) year for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021*
- 4. A breakdown of the ages of patients in question 3 broken down by (calendar) year for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021*

Trust response:

- Information is not available – Emergency Department diagnostic coding is not sufficient to allow this level of detail. It may be possible that this information has been entered into a patients record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.
- Information is not available – Emergency Department diagnostic coding is not sufficient to allow this level of detail. It may be possible that this information has been entered into a patients record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff

member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

3. By year, totals emergency admissions (including Clinical Decision Unit) are

a. 2017: 38

b. 2018: 57

c. 2019: 51

d. 2020: 33

e. 2021: 37

f. 2022: 12 to date

4. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has decided that the level of detailed information requested be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998. The information you have requested is therefore exempt under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.