

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7686

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

26 September 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 out-of-hours GPs.

You asked:

- 1) The number of occasions in the past 12 months when there were no out-of-hours GPs on shift;*
- 2) What advice was given to patients who sought a GP during the period when none were available;*
- 3) What other staff were available during these occasions to provide assistance to patients;*
- 4) The number of patients who sought out of hours care while there were no GPs on duty in the past 12 months;*
- 5) The number of children who sought out of hours care while there were no GPs on duty in the past 12 months;*
- 6) The number of occasions when an out of hours centre was closed due to lack of staff in the past 12 months;*
- 7) The number of occasions when just one GP has been on duty for an out of hours shift in your area in the past 12 months*
- 8) The total number of patients in your region.*

Trust response:

1) – 7)

The Trust does not hold this information. GP-led urgent treatment centres (UTCs) were set up by the West Kent Integrated Care Partnership (WKICP) in the Emergency Departments (ED) of both Maidstone Hospital and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals. Face-to-face appointments are either booked for patients by the NHS 111 service or via GP referral. This service is run locally by IC24 and runs from 20:00 to 08:00.

8) Around 560,000 people living in the south of West Kent and the north of East Sussex.