

Chase Farm Hospital
The Ridgeway
Enfield
Middx
EN2 8JL

Our reference: FOI/2009/98

2 June 2009

S Y Raulea

Telephone 0845 111 4000
Direct dial 020 8375 2270

By email to: request-11278-
xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Dear S Raulea

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing to you further to your request for information about:

- Monitoring data for junior doctors hours

The Trust has examined the records held within the Medical Staffing department. I am informed that all 46 of the Trust's FY1 posts are EWTD compliant (100%) and all are above the 75% acceptance rate for natural breaks. Although reasons for the FY1s not being able to take a break were very often not specified as requested, they were still recorded as such.

46 doctors have been given the opportunity to monitor their hours over a 14 day period, equating to 522 shifts, although that could be a high estimate as not all doctors will have worked a weekend in the monitoring period. The FY1 at Chase Farm (Paediatrics) has chosen not to return their diary sheet in the last two monitoring rounds

If an individual doctor has less than 11 hours rest the doctor has a responsibility to inform their line manager and make suitable arrangements for compensatory rest by altering their normal work pattern the next day. The Trust is reviewing the current EWTD policy to include more detail regarding compensatory rest.

I enclose the following information.

- Package of information sent to junior doctors for January monitoring round, comprising notes on completion of diary sheets, memo from Medical Director, monitoring details declaration sheet, daily diary sheets

- Memo to junior doctors regarding monitoring

Information from individual diary sheets is then input into a software package, giving the following summary analysis:

- General Surgery Barnet
- General Medicine Barnet
- Paediatrics Barnet
- General Surgery Chase Farm

These are then summarised into a return to the Department of Health which I also enclose.

You asked for emails and correspondence. As you may be aware, under the Freedom of Information Act, the Trust is required firstly to confirm it holds information and secondly to disclose it unless there is a relevant exemption under the Act that protects that information. I can confirm that there are a number of emails between the Trust and the BMA (dealing with individual doctors' rotas) related to this monitoring round, also an exchange of emails with a junior doctors' representative specifically relating to the General Medicine rota at Barnet Hospital.

One of the exemptions to the Act relates to disclosure which would breach any of the eight Data Protection Principles. The first principle requires that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. I consider that it would be a breach of this principle to disclose information relating to the terms and conditions of individual doctors and therefore I am not including the emails I have referred to above.

I am sorry that I am not able to provide you with all the information you have requested. If you wish to make a complaint about this decision, please let me know. Alternatively you can contact the Information Commissioner at

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

01625 545 700

This information has been held by the Trust for its own purposes and is published to you pursuant to the Trust's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any further use or publication by you of this material is at your own risk and it is your responsibility to check the accuracy and appropriateness of the material for your purposes.

Finally, I enclose an evaluation form which I would be very grateful if you could complete and return to me so that we can continually improve our

Publication Scheme and the way that we deal with requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

Alison Macdonald
Board Secretary