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FOI09/082

13 May 2009

Robert Clark

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Dear Mr Clark

Application for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act (2000)

Thank you for your letter requesting information under the FOI Act (2000). This was received at the Trust on 24 April 2009 and under the terms of the Act, the Trust should respond in 20-working days from receipt – that is by 26 May 2009.

Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust recognises the importance of the Act and ensures compliance by:

- Making as much information available as possible through the Trust's publication scheme at www.chesterfieldroyal.nhs.uk
- Aiming to provide information requested within a 20 working day deadline (from receipt of information)
- Using exemptions in the Act only as a last resort. If information is requested, and it is subject to an exemption, the Trust will use the public interest test to decide whether the information can be released.

Where possible information will be supplied in the format requested by the applicant. However, requests can be met by providing a copy of the original document (s), a summary of the original document(s), or by allowing the applicant to visit the Trust to read the document(s).

Ordinarily the Trust will charge no fee for documents contained within its Publication Scheme. However, fees will be charged for information outside the Scheme in accordance with the Fees Regulations published by the Department for Constitutional Affairs. We will contact you if the information you have requested is subject to a charge.

The rights within the Freedom of Information Act may be limited by the applicability of the exemptions. The Trust's commitment to publish information excludes any facts that can legitimately be withheld under exemptions set out in the NHS Openness Code www.doh.gov.uk/nhsexec/codemain.htm or the Freedom of Information Act www.legislation.hms.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/20000036.htm

Where information is subject to exemptions, the main reasons are usually protection of commercial interests and personal information under the Data Protection Act 1998 www.dataprotection.gov.uk If for any reason we cannot meet the 20 working day timescale, or if the information you request is not available, or subject to an exemption, we will write to you again with a full explanation.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Turner-Saint
Head of Communications