

Information Governance Department

Wrightington Hospital
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Appley Bridge
Wigan
WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 256284
Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI2020/6013

Date Received: 1st June 2020

Response Due: 29th June 2020

Date: 2nd July 2020

Dear Sir,

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

I would like to be provided with:

I make this request in the context of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Firstly, please provide a spreadsheet which discloses the following data, in respect of each date from and including 1 February 2020 to and including 30 April 2020:

- 1. The total capacity of ITU beds (including any surge capacity created as part of the pandemic response) which are available within your NHS Trust;**

The ITU bed capacity is 24 beds including surge capacity.

- 2. Of that total capacity of ITU beds (including any surge capacity created as part of the pandemic response), the number of ITU beds which were, for any period of time on the given date, occupied by a patient (whether because of Covid-19 or for another clinical reasoning);**

Our peak occupancy over this period was 17 patients. This would equate to 71% of our surge capacity.

- 3. Of that number of ITU beds which were, for any period of time on the given date, occupied by a patient; the percentage rate of the total occupation number where the need for the ITU bed arose from the patient suffering Covid-19;**

At peak times 82% of ITU patients were suffering from Covid-19

4. The total capacity of mechanical invasive ventilators (including any surge capacity created as part of the pandemic response) which are available within your NHS Trust;

We have a total of 24 ventilators available for invasive ventilation.

5. Of that total capacity of mechanical invasive ventilators (including any surge capacity created as part of the pandemic response), the number of mechanical invasive ventilators which were, for any period of time on the given date, occupied by a patient (whether because of Covid-19 or for another clinical reasoning);

The number of ventilated patients peaked at 17 over this period.

6. Of that number of mechanical invasive ventilators which were, for any period of time on the given date, occupied by a patient; the percentage rate of the total occupation number where the need for the mechanical invasive ventilator arose from the patient suffering Covid-19;

At Peak times 82% of all ventilated patients were suffering from Covid-19.

7. In addition to providing the above data sets, please also confirm whether, at any time since the Covid-19 pandemic began in December 2019, the Trust has created and/or adopted an official policy concerning the criteria to be applied in circumstances where the demand for ITU beds and/or mechanical invasive ventilators outstrips supply; i.e. because the number of patients in need of such resources is higher than the number of resources available.


The Trust has standard critical care capacity of 11 beds. Based on the Covid-10 modelling a surge plan to extend this to 51 beds was agreed including the construction of an additional ward along with expansion into Recovery and Theatre areas. This meant that it was not necessary for the Trust to agree a criteria for access to these beds as the surge capacity was considered sufficient.

8. If such a policy has been created and/or adopted, please confirm the date(s) during which the policy is or has been in effect, and please provide a complete copy of the policy, as well as any supporting documents or information which are referred to within the policy and/or which are reasonably required to understand and execute the policy and its implications.

N/A

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Fleming', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Mary Fleming
Director of Operations

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at: