

Trust Headquarters
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Date: 14/08/2012

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/011201

With reference to your FOI request that was received on 06/08/2012 in connection with 'Overseas visitor treatment'.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is enclosed.

Further information about your rights is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Fax: 01625 524510
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Manager
Room 34a, First Floor, Esk House, Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley, DY1 2HQ
Email: FOI@dgh.nhs.uk

Regarding your Freedom of Information request below, The Trust has previously responded to a very similar request, please find the responses below and attached for that request. I hope that this answers your request.

What is the total in unpaid bills owed to your Hospital Trust for (a) the 2010/2011 and (b) the 2011/2012 financial years including monies already written off from foreign nationality patients who have been billed by the Trust, i.e. those not eligible for free NHS care?

In the total figure for each financial year what is the biggest outstanding bill and please give a brief description of the care that it relates to together with the nationality or country of residence of the patient?

Responses to previous FOI ref; 011102

Please provide the following information for each of your hospitals for each of the following financial years: 2008/9; 2009/10; 2010/11; 2011/12.

How many patients did you identify as non-exempt overseas visitors?
Please see attached spreadsheet from a previous FOI reference 011102

What was the cash total of all the invoices raised for non-exempt overseas patients?
Please see attached spreadsheet from a previous FOI reference 011102

Of this cash total:-
How much was received as prepayment before treatment?
None – Most of the Trust's Overseas Visitors attend the hospital via Emergency Dept, then possibly referred to a ward for further treatment

How much has been recovered post treatment?
Please see attached spreadsheet from a previous FOI reference 011102

How much is still outstanding? This figure should not include debt written off
Please see attached spreadsheet from a previous FOI reference 011102

How much outstanding debt has been sent to a debt recovery agency?
There has been no outstanding debt sent to a debt recovery agency

How much debt has been written off (i.e. there are no longer any attempts to recover the money)?
Please see attached spreadsheet from a previous FOI reference 011102

Since 2008:

What is the largest outstanding debt run up by a single patient and for what treatment?
The largest outstanding debt run up by a single patient was for £4769 where the patient was admitted to the Acute Stroke Unit.

Is there an overseas visitors' manager?
The Trust does not have an Overseas Visitors Manager Role

If not, is there someone who has overseas visitors' manager role as part of their job? What is their job title?
Yes, The Treasury Manager manages the overseas visitors as part of her job role.

How do you identify patients as not ordinarily resident in the UK and therefore eligible for charging? Do you use this approach with all patients that are admitted to your hospital?
The Trust follows the Department of Health Guidance

Do you use a pre-attendance form (PAF)?
This is not applicable as most patients are admitted via Emergency Department

Do you do any checks as a matter of course as to whether someone has been resident in the UK for the last twelve months when they are admitted to the hospital?

If patient has no registered GP or NHS number they are identified as a possible Overseas Visitor and then interviewed as to their status for eligibility for NHS treatment