

Date: 30/04/2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/011788

Can you confirm the number of freedom of information requests received which you have failed to respond to in the required timeframe over the last 6 months.

From the 1.9.2013 to 28.2.2014 (6 months) the Trust received 190 Freedom of Information requests.

Of the 190 requests, 70 were sent out post 20 days.

Some of those 70 requests would have had the permission of the individual requester to allow the Trust an extension of time to provide the information. This is generally the case where the FOI requests are complex and range across multiple specialties and multiple databases. However the figures for this are not reportable from a centralised report. To collate that information would require the user going into each logged request and viewing the communications between the Trust and the requester.

Some of the 70 would include delays where part of a response was sent to the requester prior to the 20th day and the rest of the information sent post the 20th day.

The Trust's PFI (Private Finance Initiative) staff, Summit Healthcare and organisations contracted to them to provide services to the Trust hold a substantial amount of Trust information. If information requested is held by our PFI partner and not by Trust staff, the Trust would endeavour to retrieve that information, rather than say it was not held by the Trust, and on some occasions there has been a delay in the collation of the data which may be held across multiple organisations and multiple systems (not centralised).

For this particular request the Trust requested a development to the Freedom of Information database to allow us to respond to your request. Development of a system is not a mandated requirement under the FOI Act however, The Trust tries to respond to requests that are within its power to provide.