

Our Ref: 115

FEB 2025

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I am writing to make an open request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please send me the following information

1. **Does your hospital trust allow patients to have their Personal Assistant/paid carers assist them in hospital settings?**
The Trust allows all carers to stay with patients and does not differentiate between paid or unpaid carers.
2. **Does your trust have a protocol or policy in place regarding Personal Assistants/paid carers assisting with complex care needs in hospital settings? What is it?**
The Trust has a visitors charger and a Carers contract
3. **Does this policy apply both to admissions as well appointments and treatments as a day patient?**
YES
4. **How many times in the last 3 years has a patient had their care needs met by their usual PAs/paid carers whilst in hospital?**
The Trust does not record this data.

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs if necessary.

If the release of any of this information is prohibited on the grounds of breach of confidence, I ask that you supply me with copies of the confidentiality agreement and remind you that information should not be treated as confidential if such an agreement has not been signed.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Commented [GM1]: Ask Sonya the patient access policy re outpatients. Otherwise it is a yes for inpatients.

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Tel: 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

