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Request for Information Reference: 07.18.58

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Email only

23 August 2018

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for your request for information received on 31 July 2018 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding inpatient paediatric units. Specifically you asked for:

***We are doing a survey of all inpatient paediatric units and would like to ask you the following eight questions as freedom of information request in line with The Freedom of Information Act 2000.***

***We are part of a multidisciplinary team dealing with processes around children who are medically complex (Children with medical complexity or CMiC). We define these as children with a long term condition lasting greater than 12 months and requiring input from 2 or more medical teams. This group of children often have specialist feeding needs and are technology dependent. They may also have unresolved housing, immigration and care provision dilemmas. They may have extra family support needs due to parental capacity or illness. Coordinating clinical care for them can be a challenge.***

### **University Hospital of North Durham**

#### ***1. What is your paediatric inpatient occupancy, on your units (0-18yrs)?***

Answer: Please see attached spreadsheet

#### ***2. How many of these would fit into the definition above?***

The complex children who are admitted to University Hospital of North Durham and Darlington Memorial Hospital are under 1 medical team so do not fit the criteria.

**3. How many long stay (>30days) paediatric patients do you have?**

Answer: 1

**4. How many of these patients are medically fit to be discharged?**

Answer: This patient was medically fit for discharge and spent longer as a patient waiting for care package

**5. Amongst your long stay paediatric population, are there any non-medical barriers to discharge? If so what are the common reasons e.g. housing, care provider allocation, training or social care support?**

Answer: The most common reason is care provider training/allocation.

**6. Who coordinates discharge planning for "CMiC" patients and how are they set up to do this e.g. specialist paediatric discharge nurse, CNS, adult discharge teams, support workers?**

Answer: Discharge planning is multi-disciplinary, including external agencies and care providers as required. Co-ordinated through ward manger or paediatric matron

**7. Do you have any links with charities when doing this work e.g. charity funded nursing positions, collaboration with charity workers?**

Answer: There are currently no charity funded nurses

**8. Do you have specific paperwork for long stay "CMiC" patients e.g. hospital passports, patient held records, advanced care plans?**

Answer: Hospital passports, patient held records, education health and social care plans, emergency health care plans, advanced care plans and complex needs care planning are all used.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive  
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust  
Darlington Memorial Hospital  
Hollyhurst Road  
Darlington  
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113  
Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
Freedom of Information Officer