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Request for Information Reference: 01.20.27

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Email only

4th February 2020

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

Thank you for your request for information received on 16 January 2020 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 stranded patients. Specifically you requested information as follows:

***Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with full answers to the following questions regarding stranded patients (those with a Length of Stay over more than 7 days) and super-stranded patients (those with a Length of Stay over more than 21 days).***

***1. How many stranded patients did each of your trust's hospitals have during each month of the past calendar year, 2019?***

Answer:

Month	Average Stranded Patients Per Day
Jan-19	331
Feb-19	330
Mar-19	340
Apr-19	353
May-19	344
Jun-19	317
Jul-19	308
Aug-19	302
Sep-19	314
Oct-19	309

Nov-19	331
Dec-19	341

***Please provide the information by month if possible, i.e. January 2019, 200 stranded patients. However if this is not possible please provide the figures on a weekly or daily basis, if that is how they are recorded locally.***

***2. How many super-stranded patients did each of your trust's hospitals have during each month of the past calendar year, 2019?***

Answer:

Month	Average Super Stranded Patients Per Day
Jan-19	110
Feb-19	100
Mar-19	98
Apr-19	122
May-19	124
Jun-19	109
Jul-19	102
Aug-19	106
Sep-19	104
Oct-19	96
Nov-19	94
Dec-19	114

***3. Has your Trust met its target of reducing super-stranded patients by 25% from 2017-18 figures? If not, please state by what proportion the figure has been reduced by so far.***

Answer: There has been a 20% reduction from March 18 compared to the average 2019. National target has since evolved to a 40% reduction from the March 2018-19 position.

***4. What were the five longest Length of Stays recorded by patients in your trust during calendar year 2019?***

Answer: 199 days, 192 days, 166 days, 147 days and 143 days (this is complete spell, admission to eventual discharge)

***5. What specific actions has your Trust taken to reduce super-stranded patients in the past year?***

Answer: The Trust have undertaken a number of initiatives model, using the #nextstephome model developed as part of the NHSI emergency pathway. Project Margaret is part of NHSI Action on A&E and is multi organisational across CDDFT, CCG's, DCC and DBC, which aims to reduce length of stay by 30% for the medically fit super stranded patients. Our vision: A clear, frictionless process enabling safe, timely and supportive discharge.

Delivered by identifying the top four courses of delayed or impeded discharge and running a Rapid Process Improvement Workshop for each.

The four causes were identified through broad brush data analysis. This was sufficiently accurate to bring out four clear cut areas for examination, change identification and implementation:

- CHC
- Patients with Packages of Care
- Community hospitals
- Therapy

The above RPIW's were conducted as well as other initiatives such as perfect November and Mighty March that was centred around the SAFER methodology.

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**