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Request for Information Reference: 11.21.36

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
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Email only

6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to number 13 and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

We are undertaking a review of hospitals within the UK to see if superstition plays any role in the numbering of bed spaces or wards; focusing on the number 13. We would like to know the following:

### 1. Do any of the hospitals within your trust have numbered wards?

Yes

#### If so, which?

University of North Durham  
Bishop Auckland Hospital  
Darlington Memorial Hospital  
Richardson Community Hospital  
Sedgefield Community Hospital  
Weardale Community Hospital  
Chester le Street Community Hospital  
Shotley Bridge Hospital

- **Of these hospitals, do any have a ward numbered 13? If so, which?**

No

- **Additionally, these hospitals with numbered wards, are there wards numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a ward 13)?**

Yes

**If so, which hospitals?**

University Hospital of North Durham

## **2. Do the wards in your hospitals have numbered bed spaces?**

Yes – Beds are based on Bays and bed numbers are 1-6 in each bay, there are no wards that have single rooms up to room 13.

**If so, which?**

- **Of these hospitals, do any of the wards have a bed space 13? If so, which?**
- **Additionally, these hospital wards with numbered bed spaces, are there bed spaces numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a bed space 13) If so, which hospitals?**

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 on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs).

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**