

**Freedom of Information Request**

Ref: UHB 17-213

Date 4 May 2017

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

**1. Prior to April 2017, did the Trust have policy the requesting of identification of foreign nationals prior to providing care?**

No.

**2. In the 12 months to April 2017, did employees or others providing Trust services check any patients' passports before giving them care?**

Yes.

If so

**a. Which services?**

**b. How many patients were asked for identification in the 12 months to April 2017**

**c. How many were asked to provide passports**

**d. How many those asked to provide identification did not go on to seek care?**

We do not hold this information

**3. What preparations did you make for the new up-front charges for non-emergency care from April 2017?**

To clarify these are the changes outlined in

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/overseas-visitors-and-migrants-extending-charges-for-nhs-services>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/590027/Consolidated\\_Response\\_cost\\_recovery.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/590027/Consolidated_Response_cost_recovery.pdf)

There has been no change to the Overseas Visitors NHS Charging Regulations 2015 as the proposed changes were not laid before parliament.

**4. What projections or estimates have been made of**

**a. The cost of implementation?**

**b. The revenue it will bring in?**

**c. The potential to deter people from seeking care and consequences on their health and public health?**

**d. Compliance with equality and discrimination rules?**

The Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**5. How do you collect charges for overseas patients after care? Do you have figures and are they available for the cost of doing this, the revenue it brought in, the number of people contacted and the number who paid in the 12 months to April 2016?**

The Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary  
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]