

Freedom of Information Request**Ref: UHB 17-404**

Date 27 July 2017

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

Name of respondent	University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Name of Hospital/Unit	Bristol Royal Hospital for Children
Address	Marlborough Street, Bristol, BS1 3NU
Area covered by hospital/unit	Paediatrics

- 1) **Do you have any children and young people on your wards/units with long term complex/medically complex needs that have been inpatients for more than 3 months but could receive their care at home? If you answered yes, please can you provide a breakdown of figures according to age range and time in hospital using the table below:**

Yes

	Time in Hospital				
		3-6 months	6-12 months	12 months – 2 years	Over 2 years
AGE	Under 12 months	We are unable to disclose the figures as for each column; there are less than 5 patients. Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. There therefore find that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information			
	1-2 years				
	2-5 years				
	6-12 years				
	12-15 years				
	15-19 years				

2) Are there any barriers prevent the discharge of these children and young people home? Yes/No

If you answered yes, please can you list these below:

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

3) What would be the top 3 things which would facilitate earlier discharge for these children and young people?

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2.	
3.	

4) Do you have information on the opportunity costs of providing long-term care for children and young people who could receive care at home? For example, have you had to divert other children and young people needing care to other hospitals because of a shortage of beds, or are there treatments which you have been unable to offer to children and young people because resources are unavoidably dedicated to the care of children and young people requiring long-term care who could, in other circumstances, be cared for at home? If possible, please provide numbers or other evidence of the opportunities missed.

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5) If WellChild funding were available for the provision of a WellChild Nurse based at your hospital/unit to work with parents and in the community to assist with the discharge of children and young people with long-term complex/medically complex needs back home, would you be interested in making an application?

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]