

Winners of the national Hospital of the Year award

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Chairman Neil Large
Chief Executive Jane Tomkinson

Jo Salter

Date: 07 April 2016

Ref: FOI/LHCH/2016080

Dear Ms Salter,

Further to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please find a response to your questions below.

- Q1 Does the Trust have a discharge policy in place that requires patients to leave hospital after a specified period of time, if they are medically fit but remain in hospital because they (or their family) have been unable to:
- Choose a preferred residential or nursing home?
 - Arrange a care package at home?
 - Find suitable alternative housing (e.g. sheltered/retirement housing, extra care)?

Please provide copies of any relevant policy documents.

- A1 Please see the attached policies:
- Discharge Policy v3.0
 - Discharge Lounge v1.0

Although we do have a Discharge Policy there is nothing within the policy that would indicate discharge for medically fit patients due to social circumstances.

- Q2 How many patients have been affected by this policy in the past 12 months? Please provide an overall number, and if possible also provide a breakdown by:
- Age (over 65 or under 65)
 - Reason for the policy being enacted (as in question 1)

- A2 Information not held - the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data

- Q3 Does the Trust have plans to develop such a policy within the next 12 months?

A3 Information not held

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Should you not be happy with the information provided you have a right to request a review of our response. In the first instance this should be addressed to:

Information Governance Manager
Health Records Department
Liverpool Heart & Chest Hospital
Thomas Drive
Liverpool
L14 3PE

If you ask for a review and are dissatisfied with the outcome, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act you then have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner's address is:

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

Yours sincerely

**Information Governance Team
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS FT**

E-Mail: FOIRequests@lhch.nhs.uk