

Reference Number: FOI2021/490
From: Private Individual
Date: 02 March 2022
Subject: Clinical service incidents caused by estates and infrastructure failure

Q1 Please provide details of clinical service incidents caused by estates and infrastructure failure at your hospital trust in 2020/21.

A “clinical service incident” is defined as follows: Number of incidents caused by estates and infrastructure failure which caused clinical services to be delayed, cancelled or otherwise interfered with owing to problems or failures related to the estates and infrastructure failure. Exclude failures relating to non-estates causes e.g. nursing availability but include where external incidents which estates and infrastructures should have mitigated e.g. utility power failures where the Trusts backup power system failed to offset. An incident is considered to be a delay of at least 30 minutes to clinical services affecting at least 5 patients or equivalent. Both inpatient and outpatient service incidents should be included.

Please note that the information provided will not always capture the length of delay or the total number of patients affected.

Such incidents will include, but are not limited to: • Power and/or heating failures including overheating • Fires and false alarms (where caused by equipment faults or malfunction, deliberate/malicious causes should be excluded) • Water and/or sewage supply • Food production and/or delivery • Pest control

For each incident, please provide a summary of the incident and the impact on services. Please provide details of the problem and in what way clinical services were affected, including the number of patients affected, the service and how long the service was delayed/if it was cancelled.

A1 The Trust recorded three such incidents within this time period.

Incident 1 - Cardiac arrest bell in room did not sound when pulled, no delay in care as arrest bell in next room was pulled – no harm to patient.

Incident 2 – Ventilation failure in Theatre D – patient still in anaesthetic room so transferred to alternate theatre whilst repair works were undertaken – no harm/impact to patient.

Incident 3 – Ventilation failure in Theatre B at 10am – supply fan failure, 1 patient on table when failure occurred, procedure completed and Duty of Candour completed. Issue rectified by Estates and air changes checked. Theatre back into service an hour later.