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King's Mill Hospital
Mansfield Road
Sutton in Ashfield
Nottinghamshire
NG17 4JL

RE: Freedom of Information Request

Tel: 01623 622515
Join today: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

6th June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 11th April 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. In your reply to my second question, you refer to a meeting which occurred on 12th January 2024 where a paper related to risk assessments for the imposition of masks was 'discussed and approved' by the Infection Prevention and Control Committee. Please would you share this paper.**

Please see accompanying documents

FOI 53918 Accompanying Document 5.1 Covid-19 Triggers and Escalations v1.3

FOI 53918 Accompanying Document RSV Data

FOI 53918 Accompanying Document Influenza Data

FOI 53918 Accompanying Document Covid Data

- 2. As examples of 'risk assessments' you have provided what you describe as documents describing 'Covid-19 Triggers and Escalations'. These documents contain no information directly related to (a) the actual, measured levels of Covid-19 prevalence which would necessitate masks being mandated; or (b), the evidence used to justify the scientific usefulness of masks as protection against Covid-19 (or indeed any assessment of the harms that might result from wearing masks). Please would you share the statistics and evidence that justifies a 'trigger' or 'escalation' point being reached.**

The factors taken into account when developing the triggers and escalations where, The number of patients beds in the Trust The number of inpatients who had a positive respiratory virus test - 10% of Trusts beds The total number of patients testing positive for a respiratory virus but not admitted for example in November we had 79 positive cases in January this had increased to 172 for Covid, for Influenza we had 12 cases in November and this had increased to 142 in January.

Home, Community, Hospital.

Patient Experience Team
01623 672222
sfh-tr.pet@nhs.net



We are proud to
be a smoke-free
site

Chair Claire Ward
Chief Executive Paul Robinson

The Trust Ventilation systems and space in which teams will be working, e.g. continuous close proximity to patients and members of the public.

Maintain visitors for patients (who may have a respiratory infection)

As part of the Health and Safety at Work Regulations we have to consider that an acceptable risk is one where the risks of harmful infection in a workplace environment are no greater than the risk of harmful infection that may be experienced by a person in normal day-to-day life. For example, would a normal person be expected to spend long periods of time in enclosed spaces and have close contact (within 1m) with multiple people with known or suspected infection?

The triggers and escalations are monitored on a weekly basis by the Infection Prevention and Control Team and escalated to the Executive team if we are near to a trigger point, this is then taken to a Trust wide meeting for discussion and agreement to implement.

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, 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: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

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without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.