

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2324/351  
**From:** Commercial  
**Date:** 27 September 2023  
**Subject:** Admissions to A&E with symptoms of allergic reaction

Under Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information:

- Q1 Admissions to A&E of children aged under 18 with symptoms of allergic reaction (hives/vomiting/swelling/wheeze) or anaphylaxis who have either,
- been conveyed by ambulance from a school or education setting
  - been admitted on a weekday during 8.30-4pm. Please also provide quantities of children then admitted to wards or ICU from this cohort.

Please break down the information by year from 2016-present. For each child, please clarify their symptom category, whether they were conveyed or self-presented, whether they were admitted to ward, whether they were admitted to ICU, length of stay

A1

Year	A & E Attendances Allergy/Anaphylaxis	Admitted weekday hours
2016/17	757	176
2017/18	812	204
2018/19	833	224
2019/20	772	199
2020/21	619	187
2021/22	875	284
2022/23	777	196
2023/24	324	91

	Via Ambulance & School
2016	0
2017	0
2018	0
2019	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2020	
2021	0
2022	0
2023	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.

Information not held for symptom category – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data. In order to ascertain the data, the Trust would be required to access personal data of the individuals and as such the data is exempt under Section 40: Personal data.

The Trust is unable to respond to all or specific elements of your request where the response would indicate five or less individuals. The Trust is withholding this information under Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 to reduce the risk of any individuals being identified. The Trust is of the view that disclosure of such information would significantly increase the risk of individuals being identified and as such would constitute a breach of their personal data.

The Trust has applied exemption Section 40(2) of the FOIA and is therefore withholding the information as disclosure which may identify an individual would breach their rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. The grounds for application of this exemption include:

- Any data relating to patients or staff is third party data, furthermore health data is classified as sensitive personal data within the Data Protection Act 2018. As such, Section 40 (2) of the FOIA applies along with the Trusts duty of confidentiality. Therefore under s.2 (3) (f) (ii) of the FOIA, there is an absolute exemption from disclosure on the grounds that it would contravene the First Data Protection Principle.
- The Trust has a duty under the Data Protection Act 2018 and specifically the First Data Protection Principle to ensure personal data regarding staff and patients is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of such data which may identify an individual, either through the data alone or other data in conjunction with that data which may identify an individual would therefore breach this principle.
- The Data Protection Act 2018 defines sensitive personal data to include data relating to the “physical or mental health or condition” of a person. Any such information about specific individuals falls within this category and disclosure of such data including statistical data, with any potential likelihood of identification would breach the Data Protection Act 2018.