

Ref. No: 471190122  
From: Public  
Date: 19/01/22  
Subject: Charges to Overseas Visitors and Migrants

## REQUEST

I write to request information regarding decisions made under the National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015, as amended, in your Trust. I seek to ascertain your Trust's application of the UK Government's current guidance which states:

*Overseas visitors to England, including anyone living in the UK without permission, will not be charged for:*

- *testing for COVID-19 (even if the test shows they do not have COVID-19)*
- *treatment for COVID-19, including for a related problem called multisystem inflammatory syndrome that affects some children*
- *vaccination against COVID-19*

*No immigration checks are needed for overseas visitors if they are only tested, treated or vaccinated for COVID-19.*

Please can you tell me:

**1) Between Feb 2020 and December 2021, did your Trust treat any overseas visitors or migrants (e.g. those usually subject to cost recovery provisions)?**

**If YES:**

**(a) How many of these were treated for COVID-19?**

**(b) How many of these patients did your Trust exempted for charges related to their treatment under the "Guidance on implementing the overseas visitor charging regulations (amended Feb 2020)"?**

**(c) If available, please provide nationalities (individual or coded by continent), ages and gender of these patients.**

**If NO:**

**(d) Prior to Feb 2020, did your Trust treat any overseas visitors or migrants and recover costs? If so, can you provide the cost recovery information for the preceding 5 years.**

If YES or NO:

**2) What, if any, training has been given in your trust to those engaged in cost recovery about the application of new provision around COVID-19 and the implementation of the amendments to the guidance on charging? If this training or information is available in textual formats (e.g. PDF/JPG/PPT or the like), please can you attach it to your response.**

## RESPONSE

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.