

Ref. No: 0285
Date: 27/09/23
Subject: Emergency Department Information

REQUEST

I am writing to formally request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am interested in obtaining data and statistics regarding various aspects of Southport Hospital's Emergency Department (ED) operations and patient demographics, particularly in relation to the Northwest Ambulance Service and other relevant factors. I kindly request the following information:

1. Common Types of Patients:

- a. Please provide information on the common types of patients received at Southport Hospital's ED. Categorize these patients based on the nature of their conditions or complaints.

2. Ambulance Service Call Categories:

- a. Specify the categories of calls from the North West Ambulance Service that Southport Hospital receives, excluding those that occur during handover.
- b. Among the mentioned call categories, please indicate which category is the most frequent in terms of patient arrivals.

3. Most Common Patient Complaint:

- a. Share information on the most common complaint or condition that patients present with at Southport Hospital's ED.

4. Common Age Group:

- a. What is the most common age group among patients treated at Southport Hospital's ED?

5. Self-Presentations to ED:

- a. Since any recent ambulance strikes, provide data on the

percentage of patients who have presented themselves to Southport Hospital's ED due to their inability to secure a GP appointment.

6. ED Pressure Post-Ambulance Strikes:

- a. **Has the occurrence of ambulance strikes had an impact on the pressure experienced by ED services at Southport Hospital, or are high levels of patient admissions still being observed?**

7. Referrals to Hartley Hospital:

- a. **Please inform me of the number of patients referred from Southport Hospital's ED to Hartley Hospital.**

RESPONSE

I am writing to formally request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am interested in obtaining data and statistics regarding various aspects of Southport Hospital's Emergency Department (ED) operations and patient demographics, particularly in relation to the Northwest Ambulance Service and other relevant factors. I kindly request the following information:

1. Common Types of Patients:

- a. **Please provide information on the common types of patients received at Southport Hospital's ED. Categorize these patients based on the nature of their conditions or complaints.**

Please find information attached.

Section 40: personal information

We are unable to provide precise figures when those figures refer to individuals in volumes of 5 or less due to the risk that individuals will be re-identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the General Data Protection Regulations & Data Protection Act 2018. In such circumstances Section 40(2) and Section 40(3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle which states that personal data should be processed "lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner". It is the lawful aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure, and in such circumstances, Section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure.

2. Ambulance Service Call Categories:

- a. Specify the categories of calls from the North West Ambulance Service that Southport Hospital receives, excluding those that occur during handover.**
- b. Among the mentioned call categories, please indicate which category is the most frequent in terms of patient arrivals.**

We do not hold this information; North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) can be contacted via:

Email: foi.enquiries@nwas.nhs.uk

Web Form: <https://www.nwas.nhs.uk/foi/>

Post: Daren Mochrie, Chief Executive, North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust, Ladybridge Hall, Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 5DD

3. Most Common Patient Complaint:

- a. Share information on the most common complaint or condition that patients present with at Southport Hospital's ED.**

Please find information attached.

4. Common Age Group:

- a. What is the most common age group among patients treated at Southport Hospital's ED?**

Please find information attached.

5. Self-Presentations to ED:

- a. Since any recent ambulance strikes, provide data on the percentage of patients who have presented themselves to Southport Hospital's ED due to their inability to secure a GP appointment.**

We do not record this information.

6. ED Pressure Post-Ambulance Strikes:

- a. Has the occurrence of ambulance strikes had an impact on the pressure experienced by ED services at Southport Hospital, or are high levels of patient admissions still being observed?**

Please find information attached.

7. Referrals to Hartley Hospital:

- a. Please inform me of the number of patients referred from Southport Hospital's ED to Hartley Hospital.**

Please find information attached.