

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request concerning Canteen closure.

The Trust can provide the following information:

Please publish the meeting notes or agenda or policy that gave the order or permission for the canteen situated on the first floor of Homerton hospital to be closed between 11:45 till 14:00 making its use solely for doctors.

The Trust can provide the following information:

Unfortunately there are no meeting notes, agenda or policy regarding the decision to close the hospital restaurant to members of the public during the lunch time period.

I should clarify that during the hours stated in your query, the restaurant is limited to Trust staff who gain entry by showing a valid identity badge – not just doctors.

As I am sure you can appreciate our staff only have limited time for a meal break during their busy shifts. It was found that owing to public use of the restaurant during the lunchtime period, staff were spending a considerable length of time waiting to be served, often not allowing them sufficient time to actually consume their food.

Therefore the Executive Team took the decision to restrict public access between 11.45am and 2pm. The Chatters Restaurant is first and foremost a staff restaurant which was opened up to public use several years ago. It has limited capacity and is popular with staff for lunch.

The public have full access to the restaurant outside the hours stated. Whilst we appreciate that this may cause the public some inconvenience there are alternative areas in the Hospital main entrance where food and beverages can be obtained.

I do hope that this explains the reason for the restriction.

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at [foi@homerton.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@homerton.nhs.uk) , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk) to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

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