

30 March 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Nurses in A&E.

The Trust can provide the following information:

In January 2015 The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published draft recommendations on minimum ratios concerning safe staffing for nursing in A&E departments. The draft recommendations were:

- 2 registered nurses to 1 patient in cases of major trauma or cardiac arrest
- 1 registered nurse to 4 cubicles in either 'majors' or 'minors'.

The guidance can be accessed here: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/gid-accidentandemergencysettings/resources/accident-and-emergency-departments-guideline-consultation3>

1. In line with the above, please could you state whether the Type 1 Major A&E departments within your Trust were meeting the above ratios at the time when the draft guidance was published in January 2015 (please provide figures by Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE)).

**We believe we are compliant**

2. Please could you state whether you have plans in place to meet the above recommendations?

**N/A - but involved in testing a specific safer nursing tool looking at patient nurses ratio within ED**

3. Please could you state the average number of FTE registered nurses that were on duty in your Type 1 Major A&E department during the a) day b) night. Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.

**Day – 14 WTE RN's Night- 12**

4. Please could you also state the average number of cubicles there are in your Type 1 Major A&E departments during the a) day b) night? Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.

**Cubicles Majors-12 Resus-5 Injuries-7 Childrens-7  
Observation unit 9 beds**

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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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