# University Hospitals Bristol NHS
## NHS Foundation Trust

**Freedom of Information  Request**                                      **Ref: UHB 17-229**

Date 21 April 2017

Dear ████████████

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.  The Trusts response is as follows:

**Please split the figures for questions 1-3 into overnight beds and day-only beds. This request includes beds that were temporarily unavailable**

1. **As of April 2010, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust (including predecessor Trusts)?**
   16 beds – All of which are open overnight.

2. **As of March 2011, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust (including predecessor Trusts?**
   16 beds – All of which are open overnight.

3. **As of April 2017, the total number of Accident and Emergency beds within the Trust?**
   16 beds – All of which are open overnight.

4. **Please list any Accident and Emergency wards or units that have been permanently closed since April 2010. Please state how many A&E beds they included at point of closure.**
   None

5. **Please provide the business case or management report/review underpinning each closure listed in response to question 4.**
   Not applicable

6. **Please list any Accident and Emergency wards or units that have been permanently opened since April 2010. Please state how many A&E beds they include.**
   None

7. **What is the Trust's policy on treating overseas patients who are eligible to be charged upfront for care but are not able or willing to pay upfront?**
   The Trust follows the Overseas Visitors NHS Charging Regulations, where immediately necessary and urgent treatment is given regardless of an individual's ability or willingness to pay.

8. **What is the Trust's policy on upfront charging for overseas patients where it is not possible to establish the cost of care upfront?**
   An estimated cost of treatment is supplied and adjustments are made once the full cost of treatment is known

9. **What is the Trust's policy towards clinical staff who refuse to enforce upfront payment?**
   Clinical staff are not required to obtain payment, this function sits with the Overseas Visitors Officers and Treasury Management

10. **What is the Trust's policy on identifying which patients need to be asked for proof of residency in relation to upfront charging, and what form does that proof take?**
    Our practice is that we identify potential overseas patients through our patient administration system which reports against a set of criteria in a non-discriminatory way. There is no single document or event which proves an individual's ordinarily resident status. We ask for official documents with a photograph (passport, Biometric Residence Permit (BRP), National ID Card, Driving Licence), documents which prove where someone lives (utility bill, bank / building society statement, phone bill, credit card statement) and then any other documents that can help establish eligibility (European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), P60/wage slip, NI or benefits letter, Permanent Residence Card (PRC), letter or statement from HMRC, etc.) We also ask potential Overseas Visitors to complete an attendance form.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click here.

Yours sincerely,