

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on Thursday 21st December 2023, I am pleased to confirm the following.

1. What are the conditions that class as “unsuitable housing”?

This is variable depending on each patient, but examples would be – no heating/water/windows with work taking a long time to be repaired or property not habitable. Homes needing a deep clean due to excrement, rats, flies, mold.

or ‘clinically vulnerable’ pertaining to patients that require NHS safe places?

Clinically vulnerable patients are referred to Social Care and decisions around needs/accommodation is made by the Social Worker

Unsuitable housing leading to the provision of safe houses. refers to the conditions that means social services must be called as referred to in this article.

<https://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/news/safe-place-patients-who-are-homeless-after-hospital-stay>

How many cases of this have been reported each year?

There are generally 1-2 patients at any one time with unsuitable housing.

How many days did each patient stay?

Under section 12(1) of the FOIA, MKUH is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the appropriate limit. We estimate that the cost of locating and collating any relevant information and extracting the information to meet your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with it. The £450 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 18 hours of work per request. The cost of locating, retrieving and extracting information can be included in the costs for these purposes.

If you would like to revise your question, we would be happy to look in to it for you.

What were the reasons for their stay?

These would be multiple reasons mainly due to physical health problems but occasionally due to social issues around unsuitable housing and vulnerability.

How much did it cost to keep each patient?

The average cost is £400 per day.

What was the reason for each patients' discharge?

This would vary, it may be that the repairs/adaptations to the property have taken place or housing have provided them with temporary/new accommodation or Social Care have provided them with a temp placement for a period of assessment.

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If you are unhappy with the information received in response to this request, please address your complaint to the Patient Affairs Office at Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD If, after exhausting our internal process, you are still unhappy with the information received, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Any re-use of this information will be subject to the
'Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations' and best practice.