

FOI 3435

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Question: Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information in electronic format:**

**Please provide the number of patients who were medically fit for discharge but remained in hospital within your Trust, as of the most recent date possible.**

**Please provide this data broken down by the length of time the patient remained in hospital after being declared medically fit for discharge:**

- More than 2 months**
- More than 5 months**
- More than 9 months**
- More than 12 months**
- More than 15 months**
- More than 18 months**
- More than 24 months**

**Response:**

The figures provided below are for Acute and Community Services. The most recent data available to us at present has been provided.

The Children and Young People Service provided a NIL response.

**Number of Inpatients as at 30.04.2025 with a Medically Fit for Discharge**

**Notes:**

Snapshot of Current Inpatient as at 30th April 2025 minus Medically Fit Date. Each patient only counted once.

<b>Months Delayed</b>	<b>No of Delayed Transfers of Care</b>
More than 2 months	13
More than 5 months	8
More than 9 months	<5*
More than 12 months	<5*
More than 15 months	0
More than 18 months	<5*
More than 24 months	<5*

\*The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality and, in line with this duty, the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves and the sensitivity of the information requested. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018

Email: [Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net)