

Request title: NHS Efficiency (Lord Carter Review)

Date of Response: 15th December 2015

Further to your Freedom of Information request, the Trust has answered your questions in the order they appear in your request.

Request

Please can you provide the following information under FOI laws. If your trust has not yet received this information from Lord Carter, then please hold this request until January 15.

1. The overall savings estimate that has been sent to the trust by Lord Carter, as part of his review of NHS efficiency. Please note, I am not asking for the agreed/confirmed savings figure, I'm asking for the initial figure that was presented to the trust by Lord Carter and his team.
2. The overall savings estimate as a proportion of the trust's turnover.
3. The 'pack' that has been sent to the trust, outlining the areas where savings could potentially be made.

Reply

The Trust can confirm that it holds some of the information relevant to your request. However, it is being withheld under Section 22, which states that public bodies are not obliged to disclose information that is intended for future publication. The Department of Health intends to release the data for all acute Trusts by summer 2016.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption, and the Trust is required to assess as objectively as possible whether the balance of public interest favours disclosing or withholding the information. The Trust's view that section 22 applies to your request is based on the judgement that the public interest will be better served by a general publication of validated data.

In general, there is a strong public interest in information being made as freely available as possible. However, we also recognise a strong public interest in publication in line with the planned timeframe, as this will give sufficient time to validate the data and format it for publication.