

Request title: Electronic Patient Record (EPR)

Date of Response: 13th November 2015

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

Request

As a local resident that uses the services of Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust, I am interested in the Trust Public Board meeting minutes as found on your website.

I have a question that I believe I can ask as part of the NHS Openness Code 2003 and the Freedom of Information Act of 2005 – as your website suggests. My question is regarding the full business for Electronic Patient Records as mentioned in the April 2015 minutes on your website:-

48.15	MATTERS DISCUSSED IN MORNING SESSION AND TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING	
	The Chairman informed the meeting that the Board would be discussing the full business case for Electronic Patient Records (EPR), the Q4 2014/15 return to Monitor and the draft Annual Report, Accounts and Quality Report 2014/15.	

There seems to have been no further mention of this significant initiative in the later public board meeting minutes on your website. I am keen to learn of the progress and when Electronic Patient Records are to be introduced as I understand the significant benefits for patients.

Please may I have an update on progress and confirmation of the latest EPR plans?

I would also be interested in seeing the EPR business case for this significant Trust expenditure.

Reply

The Royal Devon & Exeter has completed extensive work in evaluating the implementation of an Electronic Patient Record (EPR). This work confirmed that an EPR is an important enabler to the delivery of a different future model of care and identified significant benefits to patients, carers, staff and our fellow partners across the health & social care system.

The Board approved, in principle, the EPR full business case in April 2015 with agreement to explore routes to secure the necessary funding for the investment. This work is underway and funding options are being assessed with a view to a final decision being made during 2016. At this stage we are unable to release the business case due commercial confidence.