

Date: 24/03/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012157

With reference to your FOI request in connection with 'Staffing in A&E' please see response below.

In January 2015 The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published draft recommendations on minimum ratios concerning safe staffing for nursing in A&E departments. The draft recommendations were:

- 2 registered nurses to 1 patient in cases of major trauma or cardiac arrest
- 1 registered nurse to 4 cubicles in either 'majors' or 'minors'. The guidance can be accessed here: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/gidaccidentandemergencysettings/resources/accident-and-emergency-departments-guideline-consultation>

In line with the above, please could you state whether the Type 1 Major A&E departments within your Trust were meeting the above ratios at the time when the draft guidance was published in January 2015 (please provide figures by Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE)).

The current establishment meets the ratio stated in the recommendations.

Registered nurses 74.60 wte, unregistered 25.17 wteb)

Please could you state whether you have plans in place to meet the above recommendations?

The establishment covers the minimal staff requirements but we have vacancies that are subject to ongoing recruitment adverts

Please could you state the average number of FTE registered nurses that were on duty in your Type 1 Major A&E department during the

- a) day
- b) night. Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.

Average number of FTE for the dept was 12 qualified nurses for day and night with a middle shift of a least 2 wte qualified nurses.

d) Please could you also state the average number of cubicles there are in your Type 1 Major A&E departments during the

- a) day
- b) night? Please provide this information for January 2015 or for the most recent period available.

Average number of cubicles available were 39 day and night, and although not all in use were staffed.

