

Date: 20/04/2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/014051 – Overseas visitors

1. Please tell me whether the trust carries out routine identity checks on patients attending outpatient appointments to ascertain whether they are ordinarily resident in the UK.

The Trust follows the Department of Health Guidelines in respect of assessing whether patients are ordinarily resident in the UK.

2. If yes, please answer the following questions:

A) Which patients undergo such checks? (– eg all those attending first appointment for a new care pathway)

B) Please state what forms of documentation they have to provide? (eg passports, proof of address)

C) What happens if they cannot provide proof of being ordinarily resident?

In response to Q1, Q2(a) to Q 2(c) All patients commencing a new course of treatment should be asked the baseline question by frontline staff as per the Department of Health Guidelines, then if applicable an NHS eligibility form should be completed by the patient and evidence of residency should be provided. If the evidence is not available, the patient should provide the information direct to the Finance Staff. A clinical decision is made by the medic to treat immediately or wait for confirmation if eligible or not, for NHS treatment.

3. Please also state how many Overseas Visitor Managers (OVMs) or Overseas Visitor Officers (OVOs) are employed by the trust (Please state as Full Time Equivalent)

The Overseas visitor manager role is incorporated into the Deputy Treasury Manager & Treasury Officer Role within Finance. Therefore Full Time Equivalent numbers and costs are not identified separately for the Overseas Visitor Management roles and not available.

4. Please state the highest bill which is still outstanding owed by an overseas visitor for

a) 2017/18 to date £15,731 and b) 2016/17. £8,814 (instalment payments being received)

5. In relation to question 4, please broadly state the nature of the treatment (eg ophthalmology, kidney dialysis, obstetrics) and the nationality of the patient, if known.

2017/18 Renal, Respiratory and ENT treatment Pakistani

2016/17 Obstetrics Cameroon