

Date: 28/04/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012191

With reference to your FOI request that was received in connection with 'Management of mobile phones and tablet devices in the healthcare environment', please see response below.

I am carrying out doctoral research into the infection potential of mobile devices when used in the healthcare environment.

As such, please can you provide me with all current policies or guidelines that make reference to the use and management of mobile phones and tablet devices in the healthcare environment, by staff, service users, and visitors – this applies to both personal and institutionally-owned devices.

I would prefer it if these documents were sent in reply to this email, but my postal address is available in my signature block below, if needed.

Definition of terms:

- **Tablet devices – any handheld/mobile tablet computer, for example, but not restricted to, the Apple iPad.**
- **Healthcare environment – institution or area where NHS patients or service users are cared for.**

The Trust's current Decontamination Policy does not contain any information about laptops, mobiles etc.

However the Clinical Nurse Specialist for Infection Prevention and Control is currently updating this policy to incorporating laptops, computers and mobile phones. The cleaning would of course be guided by the manufacturer's guidance around this as well.

The Policy will be available around the end of May. I will ensure you receive a copy.

For a copy of the Trust's Mobile Telephone (for staff) Policy and the Trust Photography and Video Policy (which is currently under review) please contact FOI@dgh.nhs.uk quoting reference FOI012191 and a copy will be sent to you.