

Andy Walker
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Freedom of Information
Communications and Engagement
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14 July 2021

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www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk
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Dear Mr Walker

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) request ref: 7274

Further to your request dated 20 April 2021, please find our response to your enquiry below.

Request

Three major high rise developments are planned in Ilford: at Tesco Goodmayes, Homebase and the Seven Kings Car park. All of them are between a busy road and Crossrail. A school is proposed at the Tesco site.

It is welcome that BHRUT have supplied stats relating to asthma and eye disease which will form part of a submission to Redbridge Council. This request seeks further information about child cancer and other illnesses as follows.

1. The full postcodes of patients, both in patients and out patients aged under 18 who have been are/receiving treatment for the following conditions
 - a. Cancer with a breakdown of types, for example
 - Leukemia
 - Brain and spinal cord tumour
 - Neuroblastoma
 - Wilms tumour
 - Lymphoma (including both Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin)
 - Rhabdomyosarcoma
 - Retinoblastoma
 - Bone cancer
 - b. Otitis media
 - c. All Acute lower respiratory infections, such as pneumonia and bronchiolitis.
 - d. Meningitis



These dates tie in with the lockdown period.

2. Children who have died in your care either in hospital or at home as out-patients aged under 18 for the same time periods and same conditions with the full postcodes set out in 1 above.

It is accepted there are confidentiality issues here, but when Councils are planning substantial housing developments close to roads it must be right to discover if there is a health risk to building homes in these locations.

This information may be over the usual cost limits, but it is the public interest for the it to be published. Information relating to the slight risk of blood clots from the astrazeneca vaccine has led to changes in the use of the vaccine.

They are many articles linking child illness pollution one at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41416-018-0097-7> says

“A meta-analysis by Boothe et al.³¹ assessing childhood leukaemia in relation to multiple pollutants found an increased risk for post-natal exposure but no association with pre-natal exposure. Most studies found an association with childhood leukaemia overall, but the association tended to be stronger when examining just acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) or acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) for specific pollutants³². “

Which suggests a correlation with the illnesses above will be found as was a correlation found between asthma and living by roads in an earlier Freedom of Information request sent to me.

Response

Please note, we don't have diagnosis details for outpatients, the report only contains inpatient details.

We are of the opinion that disclosure of a full postcode would be in breach of our statutory obligation under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). Where information can be combined with other data sources, we believe this could lead to identification of individuals and personal information. We are therefore not obliged, under section 40(2) of the FOIA, to provide this information. The terms of this exemption in the FOIA mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

We have therefore only shared partial postcodes showing postcode area and sector.

Please see excel sheet attached with our email.

If you wish to discuss our answer, please contact us, quoting the above reference number. If you are unhappy with the service and wish to make a complaint or to request a decision review, please contact our Information Governance Manager within 2 months from the date of our response:

The Information Governance Manager bhrut.informationgovernanceig@nhs.net

You may also apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision if you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint or review. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner's details:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

T: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45 | W: www.ico.gov.uk

We value feedback from our applicants regarding their satisfaction with the FOI response and the service they receive, as such we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete and return the attached questionnaire.

Yours sincerely

T Rasool – Information Officer
Communications Team

Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust

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Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) Questionnaire

We value feedback from our applicants regarding their satisfaction with the FOI response and service they receive. We would therefore appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete and return the following questionnaire.

Date Request Made (dd/mm/yy)	
FOI Request Reference Number	
Date Response Received (dd/mm/yy)	

I received an acknowledgement to my request	Yes / No
I was kept updated with the progress of my request	Yes / No
The response answered my request	Yes / No
I was satisfied with the time taken to answer my request	Yes / No
The response I received was easy to follow	Yes / No
Any queries I had were resolved to my satisfaction	Yes / No
Overall I was satisfied with the service I received	Yes / No
Please enter any further comments you have	

Thank you for your comments which will enable us to continue to improve our FOI service.
Please email the completed questionnaire to: BHRUT.FreedomOfInformation@nhs.net

Information Officer

Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust