

Submission date: 07 October 2013

Response date: 17 October 2013

ND ref. **FOI/13/134**

Freedom of Information

1. On what date was the last patient from North Devon District Hospital admitted to Torrington Community Hospital?

Answer: A patient was admitted on 15 October 2013 from NDDH.

2. On how many occasions during the past three years were the beds full at Torrington hospital, so were not able to admit patients from either home or another hospital?

Answer: There were 56 occasions during the last 3 years (i.e. 1,096 days), with only 10 of these during the last year. Bed Occupancy over the entire period was 89% overall, slightly below the typical bed occupancy for a Devon community hospital. In some cases available beds were impacted by required closures for infection control, standard procedure within any hospital.

3. If there were occasions that the bed state was full at Torrington hospital, may I have the dates (day, month and year)?

Answer: Please see table below:

2010	2011	2012	2013
07/10/2010	14/02/2011	05/01/2012	24/01/2013
20/10/2010	02/03/2011	07/01/2012	27/02/2013
27/10/2010	09/03/2011	14/01/2012	08/03/2013
05/11/2010	28/03/2011	20/01/2012	19/04/2013
08/12/2010	27/04/2011	07/02/2012	
11/12/2010	17/05/2011	25/02/2012	
23/12/2010	27/05/2011	10/03/2012	
	11/07/2011	18/03/2012	
	03/08/2011	30/03/2012	
	19/09/2011	09/04/2012	
	25/09/2011	02/05/2012	
	03/10/2011	09/05/2012	
	24/10/2011	02/06/2012	
	27/10/2011	19/06/2012	
	31/10/2011	03/07/2012	
	28/11/2011	16/08/2012	
	12/12/2011	24/08/2012	
	29/12/2011	29/08/2012	
		05/09/2012	
		24/09/2012	
		05/10/2012	
		31/10/2012	
		29/11/2012	
		11/12/2012	
		22/12/2012	
		27/12/2012	
		30/12/2012	
7	18	27	4

4. At recent "drop-in" meetings it was stated that the "Care Closer to Home" was being put in place over the past two years. Why were the public and staff at Torrington hospital not made aware of this until the press release of July 3 2013?

Answer: There seems to be a misunderstanding of the answer we gave at the drop-in. Care Closer

to Home is the draft strategy of the Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group – the body that 'buys' health services on behalf of the local population. They are currently running an involvement and engagement exercise about this.

The number of staff employed in the home-based care teams in Torrington has been gradually increasing as a result of county investment. This enhanced team of community therapists and community nurses are now in post and we immediately saw an impact on the number of patients being admitted to Torrington Community Hospital – admissions have been declining by 15% every year.

We announced the proposal to test a new model of care because we were confident we had the clinical infrastructure in place to support people in their own homes. There has been three months between the press release of 3 July and the actual start date of the exercise, during which we have held two public meetings and weekly drop-ins to ensure interested members of the community had a means of asking questions and raising concerns.

5. As previously stated you use one of two Nursing Homes in Torrington, have you ever used both over the past two years?

Answer: No.