

Ref. No: 1530
Date: 05/02/25
Subject: Ambulance handovers

REQUEST

Data requested from 2021-22 to the present date.

Merged data for MWL

1. Since the start of 2021-22, has your trust enacted a model which sets a 'maximum' time for ambulance handovers to your A&E departments? These have been commonly referred to as 'maximum handover times', 'duty to rescue' or 'w45/60'
2. If so, please describe how the 'maximum handover times' works at your trust – how long is the 'maximum' ambulance handover set at your trust and what triggers its use?
3. In which month and year was this first enacted? How often has this model been enacted?
4. Is the 'maximum handover time' still in use now? If not, why not?
5. Has there been any assessment of the impact of the 'maximum handover time'? If so, please give details.
6. If not, do you have plans to enact such a 'maximum handover time' in the next six months?
7. If you're not planning to introduce a 'maximum handover time', please could you explain why?

RESPONSE

MWL response

We are contracted by the nationally defined and NWAS agreed standards as below:

The nationally defined target for hospitals included in the NHS Standard Contract states that:

- 65% of handovers should take place within 15 minutes.
- 95% of handovers should take place within 30 minutes.
- All handovers should take place within 60 minutes.

We have not enacted an explicit 'maximum handover time' and are unable to do so at this stage due to the ever-changing level of clinical risk within the department and presenting via ambulance throughout the day requiring a constant dynamic risk assessment to take place.

We endeavor, as always, to transfer patients arriving via ambulance in a timely manner as it is safe to do so.