

Ref. No: 1968
Date: 05/08/25
Subject: Hospital discharge pathways

REQUEST and RESPONSE

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding your organisation's implementation, monitoring, and audit of hospital discharge pathways—specifically those outlined under the “discharge to assess” (D2A) model as referenced in the *Hospital Discharge and Community Support Guidance* updated in January 2024.

Please provide the following:

1. Audit Data

- Copies of any audits or internal reviews (from April 2023 to present) relating to compliance with the four D2A pathways (0–3), including:
 - Number of patients assigned to each pathway
 - Average time-to-discharge per pathway
 - Cases involving direct discharge to long-term care homes without interim recovery placement

Unfortunately, while we have introduced an electronic system to support discharge pathways 1–3, the system currently does not allow us to extract audit-level data or generate reports on pathway usage, time-to-discharge, or discharge destinations. Although it is technically possible to retrieve information at an individual patient level, we are not currently able to conduct audits or generate aggregate data from the system.

We acknowledge the importance of this information and are actively working to improve our data capture and reporting capabilities as part of our winter planning efforts.

2. Operational Protocols

- Documentation or protocols used by multidisciplinary discharge teams and care transfer hubs to determine discharge pathways
- Any risk assessment tools employed to determine suitability for each pathway



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3. Governance & Oversight

- **Records of governance meetings or committees discussing discharge policy implementation, compliance with Section 82 NHS Act 2006, and Section 74 of the Care Act 2014**



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4. Outcomes Data

- **If available, outcome metrics (e.g. readmission rates, delayed discharge trends) linked to discharge pathway choice and post-discharge recovery support**

Not Available