Maidstone and MHS Tunbridge Wells

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4863

ing mase

Please reply to: FOI Administrator

FOI Administrator Trust Management Maidstone Hospital Hermitage Lane Maidstone Kent ME16 9QQ Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

22 August 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to A&E attendees with no fixed abode.

You asked:

 The number of patients presenting at your A&E/urgent care centres whose address is recorded as no fixed abode or any other similar indicator the trust uses to categorise those who do not have a fixed address/are homeless.
The number of patients admitted into your hospital/s whose address is recorded as above.

Please provide these figures for each financial year from 2010/11 to the 2017-18.

Trust response: Please note

This is a count of all records with either

- a) A postcode of ZZ99 3VZ
- b) An address of "NFA", "N F A" or "Homeless"

These figures are likely to be undercounting, as we cannot pick up people in hostels, the recently homeless who still have an address on our system, and those using accommodation addresses.

A&E Attendances prior to April 2014 are not available, as the data we have available is anonymised, with no address data and pseudonymised postcodes.

Please note that the apparent rise in admissions is not to be used as evidence of increasing numbers of homeless people needing admission. Changes to emergency admission pathways have dramatically increased the volumes of short-stay admissions over the past few years. As a percentage of all admissions, the number of identifiably homeless patients has remained fairly flat.

	A&E Attendances	Admissions
2010/11		63
2011/12		60
2012/13		60
2013/14		76
2014/15	255	100
2015/16	284	89
2016/17	310	105
2017/18	300	115