

FOI REF: 22/659

5th December 2022

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1. Prior to October 2022, did you have a written plan in the event of a loss of power for the hospital(s) overseen by the trust? What did this entail?**

Yes. The plan identifies the generators normal mode of operation and areas that it serves. Possible options that may be explored during a power failure depending upon the nature of the failure, time of day and activities within the hospital.

- 2. How long can the hospital(s) run on back-up power?**

For a period exceeding the design requirements in HTM – 200 hours full load running for each set.

- 3. Have you re-examined those plans and / or made any alterations for this winter?**

Plans have been re-examined; no changes have been made. If power disruptions occur, operating experience may lead to changes either in design or operation.

- 4. What have you changed?**

Please see above.

- 5. What are your plans for hospitals if there are regular three-hour power cuts with advanced warning this winter, as warned by the National Grid?**

Rely on our own secondary power systems. Ensure that on site fuel supplies are maintained to support ongoing interruptions.

Cont.../

6. **Under what scenario would the hospital(s) be forced to close as a result of power outtages this winter?**

Complete loss of both the primary and secondary power systems.

7. **What would your advice to hospitals be in the event of a power outage with advance warning?**

Ensure that the maintenance described in HTM 06 is in place and up to date.

8. **What would your advice to hospitals be in the event of a sudden loss of power?**

Have a plan and be resilient to related threats.

9. **In the event of a sustained nationwide loss of power, have you contacted any other organisations to see if you can draw on their backup generation?**

We have resilience to connect mobile generators to support our own secondary supply systems. We would look to our supply chain and emergency planning networks/colleagues for additional machines /capacity if required.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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