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09.30 am on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

## STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE

The following statistics were released today by NHS England:

Bed Availability and Occupancy – Quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017:

The KH03 is a Quarterly collection from all NHS organisations that operate beds, ordinary or day case. It collects the total number of available bed days and the total number of occupied bed days by consultant main specialty. The main findings are summarised below.

### Occupancy Rates

- The average occupancy rate for all beds open overnight was 89.0% in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 88.4% in Quarter 3 2016/17.
- The average occupancy rate for general and acute beds open overnight was 91.4% in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 90.6% in Quarter 3 2016/17.
- The general and acute bed occupancy rate is the highest Quarter 4 rate recorded since quarterly data was first collected in 2010/11.

### Bed Numbers

The following four comparisons **do not** take account of **missing data** and caution should therefore be exercised.

- The average daily number of beds open overnight was 131,060 in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 129,076 in Quarter 3 2016/17.
- The average daily number of general and acute beds open overnight was 103,666 in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 101,386 in Quarter 3 2016/17.
- The average daily number of general and acute beds open overnight was 103,666 in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 103,422 in Quarter 4 2015/16.
- The average daily number of day only beds was 12,659 in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 12,271 in Quarter 3 2016/17.

### Estimated Data

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (RGR) submitted an estimated return in Quarter 4 2016/17.

### Missing data

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RTE) did not submit a return during Quarter 4 2016/17.

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The following two comparisons take account of data that was not submitted during the relevant quarters by providing estimates. These estimates are based on the number of general and acute beds available during the same quarter for the most recent year available. The estimates used in these comparisons are shown in **Table 1**.

| Quarter | Year    | Trust                            | Estimated No. of G&A Beds |
|---------|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Q4      | 2016/17 | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS FT | 932                       |
| Q3      | 2016/17 | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS FT | 918                       |
| Q3      | 2016/17 | West Suffolk NHS FT              | 449                       |
| Q4      | 2015/16 | Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust       | 594                       |

**Table 1** Trusts which failed to submit returns during Q4 2015/16 and Q3 & Q4 2016/17 with estimates for general and acute beds.

The national bed numbers are impacted by these missing trusts. Taking previous submissions into account to make estimates for the two missing trusts:

- The estimated average number of general and acute beds open overnight was 104,598 in Quarter 4 2016/17 compared with 102,753 in Quarter 3 2016/17 and 104,016 in Quarter 4 2015/16.
- The apparent increase of 244 general and acute beds since Quarter 4 2015/16 is due to the impact of non-submissions on the England level data. Based on previous submissions, we estimate there has been an increase of 582 general and acute beds compared to Quarter 4 2015/16.

The occupancy rates exclude these trusts and so are unaffected by the non-submissions.

## Revisions

We have processed revisions received for data from Quarter 1 2016/17 to Quarter 3 2016/17, inclusive. All published data has been updated to reflect this.

## Notes to Editors

This dataset covers the number of beds for each NHS provider that are available for patients to have treatment or care.

## Feedback welcomed

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of these statistics within this Statistical Press Notice and those published on the NHS England website. If anyone has any comments on this, or any other issues regarding the data and statistics, then please email:

[Unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

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**Additional Information**

Full details of activity data for individual organisations are available at:  
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/bed-availability-and-occupancy/>

**Press enquiries:**

To contact the Media Centre, please refer to the NHS England website for the relevant contact details: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/>

For further information, please e-mail the NHS England media team at [nhsengland.media@nhs.net](mailto:nhsengland.media@nhs.net) or call 07768 901293

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