

## STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE

### MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, JANUARY 2017

#### Main Findings – January 2017:

##### Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 197,100 total delayed days in January 2017, of which 130,400 were in acute care. This is an increase from January 2016, where there were 159,600 total delayed days, of which 104,000 were in acute care.
- 56.6% of all delays in January 2017 were attributable to the NHS, 35.3% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 8.1% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has increased over the last year to 35.3% in January 2017, compared to 32.3% in January 2016.
- The main reason for NHS delays in January 2017 was “patients awaiting further non-acute NHS care”. This accounted for 37,800 delayed days (33.9% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed a general increase between July 2015 and March 2016, before levelling off for several months. The number of delays attributable to this reason has risen in the past two months following a decline in October and November.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in January 2017 was “patients awaiting care package in their own home”. This accounted for 24,600 delayed days (35.3% of all Social Care delays), compared to 16,800 in January 2016. The number of delays attributable to this reason has been steadily increasing since February 2015.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in January 2017 was 66.2% compared to 65.2% in January 2016.
- There were 7,100 patients delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of January 2017, of which 4,800 were acute patients. This is the highest number of delayed patients recorded since monthly data was first collected in August 2010. This compares to 5,800 patients, including 3,800 acute patients, which were delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of January 2016.
- The following trusts did not submit Delayed Transfers of Care data for January 2017:
  - Weston Area Health NHS Trust (RA3)

**Table 1** shows information on delayed transfers of care from January 2014 to January 2017.

**Table 2** shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for January 2017.

Details of delayed transfers of care data for individual organisations are available at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2016-17/>

**Table 1 – Delayed Transfers of Care – January 2014 to January 2017**

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Patients Delayed	Total Days Delayed
January 2014	4,221	124,289
February 2014	4,276	112,845
March 2014	4,327	123,061
April 2014	4,207	116,261
May 2014	4,516	126,779
June 2014	4,363	124,118
July 2014	4,612	133,903
August 2014	4,704	137,613
September 2014	4,960	138,267
October 2014	4,930	142,927
November 2014	5,063	140,949
December 2014	4,475	139,025
January 2015	5,221	150,392
February 2015	4,942	134,353
March 2015	4,948	140,390
April 2015	4,739	138,030
May 2015	4,972	137,115
June 2015	4,996	139,538
July 2015	4,888	147,376
August 2015	5,114	145,093
September 2015	5,247	147,738
October 2015	5,330	160,130
November 2015	5,573	153,155
December 2015	5,004	154,008
January 2016	5,781	159,641
February 2016	5,727	158,131
March 2016	5,628	169,928
April 2016	5,879	167,966
May 2016	6,010	172,195
June 2016	6,121	171,546
July 2016	6,364	184,188
August 2016	6,448	188,340
September 2016	6,777	196,246
October 2016	6,810	200,008
November 2016	6,825	193,680
December 2016	6,191	195,286
January 2017	7,106	197,054

Notes:

- Information on the numbers of people delayed on the last Thursday of the reporting period and the total number of Delayed Days are not directly comparable because the first is a 'snapshot' and the second a cumulative total.

**Table 2 – Delayed Transfers of Care by Type of Care, Reason for Delay and Responsible Organisation – January 2017**

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Patients Delayed			Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both	NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	427	350	131	12,878	8,849	3,355
	B) Awaiting public funding	75	22	3	2,095	645	91
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	1,209	NA	NA	32,181	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	326	263	22	9,354	7,304	794
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	147	245	NA	3,540	6,399	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	230	514	157	7,271	14,547	4,332
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	82	11	5	1,990	346	220
	G) Patient or family choice	414	43	NA	10,626	1,379	NA
	H) Disputes	31	2	NA	577	120	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	63	NA	NA	1,529	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	183	160	65	4,867	4,466	1,856
	B) Awaiting public funding	35	44	29	1,225	1,348	911
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	203	NA	NA	5,572	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	101	167	78	3,134	5,177	2,417
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	125	237	NA	3,872	6,678	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	90	351	61	2,283	10,034	1,762
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	44	11	4	1,027	323	170
	G) Patient or family choice	170	65	NA	4,697	1,568	NA
	H) Disputes	17	13	NA	477	441	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	81	NA	NA	2,327	NA	NA
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,053</b>	<b>2,498</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>111,522</b>	<b>69,624</b>	<b>15,908</b>

Notes:

1. NA means the combination of reason and responsible organisation is not permitted.
2. Information on the numbers of people delayed on the last Thursday of the reporting period and the total number of Delayed Days are not directly comparable because the first is a 'snapshot' and the second a cumulative total.

## **Statistical Notes to Editors**

### **1. Delayed Transfers of Care data**

A delayed transfer of care occurs when a patient is medically fit for discharge from acute or non-acute care and is still occupying a bed. For a more detailed definition please read the guidance on NHS England's website at:  
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/>

Data on the number of patients with a delayed transfers of care is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month. Data on the number of delayed days is a cumulative figure for the month and therefore, the two are not comparable.

Data on delayed transfers of care is collected from providers of NHS funded care and is split by:

- Local Authority that is responsible for each patient delayed
- Agency responsible for delay (NHS, Social Services or both)
- Type of care that the patient receives (acute or non-acute)
- Reason for delay

A detailed breakdown of the data can be found on NHS England's website in CSV format at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2016-17/>

### **2. Trust and Local Authority level data**

Delayed transfers of care data covers NHS patients in English Hospitals, who may or may not reside in England and is published on both a trust and Local Authority basis.

Trust level reflects data at organisation level for those organisations that provide NHS funded care, for example acute Trusts, community providers, mental health trusts and Social Enterprise organisations.

Local Authority data reflects data on a regional population basis, i.e. Councils with Adult Social Services Responsibility (CASSRs) that are responsible for all patients who reside in their region.

### **3. Data Quality**

Monthly delayed transfers of care data has been collected and published since August 2010. Prior to August 2010, data was collected weekly and was un-validated management information.

Delayed transfers of care data published during the early months of the collection from August 2010 to October 2010 should be treated with a degree of caution as a change from a weekly to a monthly data collection led to data quality issues. Since October 2010, there has been a significant improvement in the coverage and accuracy of this data.

#### **4. Data Availability**

Delayed Transfers of Care data is published approximately 6 weeks after the end of the reference period. The next publication of this report and accompanying data will be 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2017.

#### **5. Revisions**

Revisions to previous month's data are made in line with NHS England's revisions protocol for performance monitoring data. Future revisions will be made on a six monthly cycle. The revisions protocol can be found on the NHS England website at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/code-compliance/>

#### **6. Feedback Welcomed**

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of Delayed Transfers of Care statistics within this Statistical Press Notice and those published on NHS England's website. Please email any comments on this, or any other issues regarding the SitReps data and statistics, to: [unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

#### **Additional Information**

For press enquiries please contact the NHS England media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 825 0959. Emails enquiries should be sent to: [nhsengland.media@nhs.net](mailto:nhsengland.media@nhs.net)

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