Dear [Name],

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail dated 16 February 2015, requesting:

“Please provide, under Freedom of Information legislation, details of each hospital ward closure in your health board during the calendar years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 (to date). In each case please provide details of: the hospital involved, the ward number, the dates during which the ward was closed, the official given reason for the ward being closed.”

I can now respond as follows:

Please provide details of each hospital ward closure in your health board during the calendar years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 (to date). In each case please provide details of: the hospital involved, the ward number, the dates during which the ward was closed, the official given reason for the ward being closed.

NHS Grampian can advise of the following closures:

**Maternity**

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| 2008 & 2009 | Fraserburgh Unit was closed for 61 evenings/nights and 20 weekends between April 2008 and March 2009  
- Closed sporadically between April 2009 and July 2009  
- Closed for 7 months from August 2009, due to staffing difficulties,  
- Closed continuously August 2009 to January 2010  
- Closed 13th April 2010  
- Closed 14th April 2010 12:00 – 08:30 |

Banff Unit was closed for 117 evenings/nights and 20 weekends
between April 2008 and July 2009
- Closed sporadically between April 2009 and July 2009
- Closed continuously August 2009 onwards

The above were due to staffing issues

Please note, the reason both Banff and Fraserburgh were both closed for 20 weekends between April 2008 and July 2009 is because the units were cross-covered on those weekends and only one was open at any one time.

2010
Fraserburgh Birth Unit; January 1st to February 1st; staffing issue.
Banff Birth Unit; August to date; closed due to staffing difficulties and remained closed pending outcome of maternity review.

2011
Banff Birth Unit; as above.

2012
Banff Birth Unit; as above. August 2012 ministerial approval for proposals from maternity review and agrees closure of birth units so unit now officially closed
Fraserburgh Birth Unit; 2 redirections to Peterhead Maternity Unit from 17.00 – 08.30 due to staff absence with no activity lost to other units.

2013
Aboyne Birth Unit closed for intrapartum care from 14th February due to staff absence, vacancy and sick leave

Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership

Within the Elderly and Rehabilitation Services based at Woodend and the City Hospitals there has been one ward closure since 2012. This was Ward 5 North and it closed in December 2012 on a permanent basis following redesign of in-patient provision within the service.
In January 2015, the Links Unit at the City Hospital was temporarily re-located to Woodend Hospital due to significant staffing pressures. However, no beds were closed; all bed numbers were maintained. In addition, some wards will have been closed on a short-term basis from time to time due to infection outbreaks. This information is not currently recorded within the service in a way that enables historical reporting.

Aberdeen Royal Infirmary

Please see the attached document for the number of bed closures by ward and the reason for the closure. NHS Grampian can advise the data held on PMS relates to bed closures only. Furthermore we can advise that the bed data prior to the latter half of 2014 is unreliable, therefore we have only provided information on bed closures from 1st July 2014 onwards.

Please find below the number of occasions hospital wards been closed to new admissions due to norovirus for the following calendar years:

2009 – 31 occasions
2010 – 40 occasions
2011 – 29 occasions
2012 – 8 occasions (to 10th March 2012)

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Grampian has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within 40 working days and should, in the first instance, be in writing to: Directorate of Corporate Communications, Ashgrove House, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZN or by email to grampian@nhs.net

Requests for appeal should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611 E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Yours sincerely

Chris Morrice
Information Governance Manager
NHS Grampian