**FOI Ref: 6606**

**Category(ies): Trust - Policies**

**Subject: Resource Prioritisation during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Date Received: 13/09/2022**

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| **Your request:** | **Our response:** |
| **Freedom of Information Act Request – Policies relating to resource prioritisation during the COVID-19 pandemic**  Please provide me with copies of the following: | |
| 1. Policies (communicated in policy documentation, guidance, internal staff communications and similar) which relate to prioritisation of patients to receive your organisation’s resources during the first 18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, I am seeking documentation you hold which sets out criteria or factors to be taken into account when selecting patients for:    1. Admission to hospital for non-elective treatment;    2. Escalation of inpatients to Critical Care or Intensive Care (ICU/ITU) wards; and/or    3. Provision of respiratory support using positive airway pressure devices (CPAP/BIPAP) or ventilation. | The Trust received a significant amount of national guidance at the time which was multifaceted and adopted by the Trust. The attached guidance was used to inform decision making.     1. Please refer to attached guidance 2. Please refer to NICE Guidance Covid-19 Rapid guideline and associated algorithm      1. Please see Clinical Guide for the use of non-invasive ventilation. |
| 1. Please include the policies issued by your organisation and any policies issued by third parties (such as Government bodies or medical professional organisations) in force within your organisation. | The Trust maintained an up to date Standard Operating Procedure reflecting the continuous flow of guidance issued centrally. |
| 1. Please only supply policies which were issued or updated between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2021 (inclusive) | Guidance attached. |