

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_115_23

You asked:

My thesis is to generate hospital architectural floor planning with artificial intelligence, especially for emergency areas. In this context, I need the floor plans of the hospital emergency departments as data. The hospital floor plans that I want to collect as data are floor plans of emergency departments of NHS hospitals in the UK.

Could you please share with me the floor plans of the emergency area of your hospitals?

Our response:

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 of the Act.

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board has deemed that the information requested is exempt from disclosure under Section 31(1)(a) and Section 38(1)(a)&(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

The UHB recognises its duty to protect its staff, patients and individuals, and we will not jeopardise this duty by providing this information. In our opinion, to share floor plans of our Emergency Departments would weaken our ability to protect our staff, patients and other service users. Providing copies of these plans would reveal locations of private offices, treatment rooms, entrances and exits, and may put the safety of staff, patients and other service users at risk.

We have also considered the harm, which will or will be likely to arise from the release of this information along with information already in the public domain.

Section 38(2) – Health and Safety of the Act – states that:

38(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to –

(a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or

(b) endanger the safety of any individual.

(2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, have either of the effects mentioned in subsection (1).

Therefore, the UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs any arguments for disclosure.