

Reference Number: FOI202223/370
From: Commercial
Date: 24 October 2022
Subject: Waiting times regarding Mental Health patients

This e-mail is intended for acute hospital trusts. Under the Freedom of Information Act I wish to request the following information.

*ICD codes: F01-99

**If these staff are employed/managed by another organisation please provide any details available to the trust.

Q1 For each of the financial years from 2016-17 to 2021-22 and for 2022-23 to the nearest completed month, please outline how many mental health patients* have had waits in emergency departments, from decision to admit to admission, discharge, or transfer of a) between 12 and 24 hours b) 24 to 48 hours c) 48 to 72 hours d) 72 hours or more?

A1 Decision to admit to admission - There were zero waits over 12 hours

Time in to discharge	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Grand Total
12-24hrs	Exempt under S40: Personal Information					26	39
24-48hr	Exempt under S40: Personal Information						
48-72hrs	Exempt under S40: Personal Information						

The Trust is unable to respond to all or specific elements of your request where the response would indicate five or less individuals. The Trust is withholding this information under Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 to reduce the risk of any individuals being identified. The Trust is of the view that disclosure of such information would significantly increase the risk of individuals being identified and as such would constitute a breach of their personal data.

The Trust has applied exemption Section 40(2) of the FOIA and is therefore withholding the information as disclosure which may identify an individual would breach their rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. The grounds for application of this exemption include:

- Any data relating to patients or staff is third party data, furthermore health data is classified as sensitive personal data within the Data Protection Act 2018. As such, Section 40 (2) of the FOIA applies along with the Trusts duty of confidentiality. Therefore under s.2 (3) (f) (ii) of the FOIA, there is an absolute exemption from disclosure on the grounds that it would contravene the First Data Protection Principle.
- The Trust has a duty under the Data Protection Act 2018 and specifically the First Data Protection Principle to ensure personal data regarding staff and patients is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of such data which may identify an individual, either through the data alone or other data in conjunction with that data which may identify an individual would therefore breach this principle.

- The Data Protection Act 2018 defines sensitive personal data to include data relating to the “physical or mental health or condition” of a person. Any such information about specific individuals falls within this category and disclosure of such data including statistical data, with any potential likelihood of identification would breach the Data Protection Act 2018.

Q2 For each financial year, please provide the length of wait for all occurrences of individual waits lasting 72 hours or more.

A2 Information not held – there were zero occurrences of 72+ hour waits.

Q3 Please provide a list of occasions (with patient identifying details redacted) where the trust has contacted a partnering mental health trust, CCG, ICS, NHS England or other statutory body to notify that there were no mental health beds available within a) the ICS area b) the NHS region c) England, Scotland or Wales.

A3 Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data. In order to ascertain the data the Trust would be required to access personal data of the individuals and as such the data is exempt under Section 40: Personal data.

Q4 As per the national Core 24 target, does your trust have an emergency mental health liaison team/liason psychiatry team available to patients attending emergency departments?

A4 Yes we have a Crisis Care service.

Q5 If yes, please provide a breakdown of staff employed in these roles by role, band and whether they are full-time equivalent or other.

Role	Band	WTE	Headcount
Assistant Psychologist	4	2	2
Keyworker	5	5	5
Crisis Care Nurse	5	3	3
Mental Health Practitioner	6	4	4
Senior Mental Health Practitioner	7	9.67	10
Specialist Practitioner	8a	1	1
Assistant Clinical Lead	8b	0.76	1
Clinical Lead	8c	0.5	1
Support Secretary	3	1.5	3
Pathway Coordinator	4	0.5	1
Psychiatrist	Medical	1 WTE	1
LAS	Medical	0.5	1

Please note this is staff currently employed by the service and does not include vacancies.

Q6 If yes, please provide details as regards the hours the team are available to patients and typical staffing levels during those hours

A6 We operate a 24 hours per day service