

Information Governance

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2 February 2021

Our reference: FOI DA3664

I am responding to your request for information received 12 January 2021. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Keshia Harvey
Information Governance Manager

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention

Chair: Mark Lam

Interim Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus

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Request:

Dear Sir or Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, we would like to make a request regarding the waiting times for specialist multi-disciplinary (Tier 3)* community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

Our request consists of five questions:

We kindly request that the information is sent digitally in a spreadsheet format: Excel format (.xlsx) would be ideal if possible – the attached spreadsheet (Excel WAIT Study FOI Request Revised.xlsx) provides a template to enter the requested data. If you do not wish to use this Excel sheet, we recommend you look at it to clarify the data we are requesting.

If you need any further clarification then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Size of population

Question 1. What is the size of the total population of under 18 year olds covered by your Trust?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This question could be responded to within the 18 hour time limit. If you would like a response to this question, please let us know.

Wait to initial appointment

Question 2. What is your minimum, maximum and median waiting times from the date referral received to initial appointment with healthcare professional (this includes a CHOICE or triage appointment and/or telephone or video call assessments)? Please provide data for the previous three full financial years (2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020).

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This question could be responded to within the 18 hour time limit. If you would like a response to this question, please let us know.

Wait to treatment

Question 3. In the financial year 2019/2020, what is your minimum, maximum and median waiting times from the date referral received to initial appointment with healthcare professional (this includes a CHOICE or triage appointment and/or telephone or video call assessments) broken down by primary reason for referral?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The clinical system used does allow for primary reason to be searched separately. In order to collate this information, staff would have to review each referral received within the time period and ascertain the primary reason for referral.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any

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individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Question 4. What is your minimum, maximum and median waiting times from the date referral received to start of treatment, based on the total number of referrals? NB. If you base start to treatment on anything other than 2nd appointment, please state below what you identify as start of treatment.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This question could be responded to within the 18 hour time limit. If you would like a response to this question, please let us know.

Question 5. In the financial year 2019/2020, what is your minimum, maximum and median waiting times from the date referral received to start of treatment, broken down by primary reason for referral?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The clinical system used does allow for primary reason to be searched separately. In order to collate this information, staff would have to review each referral received within the time period and ascertain the primary reason for referral.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.