

**Information Governance**

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**Our reference: FOI DA3128**

I am responding to your request for information received 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019. 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,

Ayomide Adediran  
Information Governance Coordinator

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](http://www.ico.org.uk)

## **Request:**

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please see the attached questionnaire detailing the information I require in relation to mental health provisions for suspects. I am requesting this information as a process of data gathering from numerous public sector services in order to complete research, and any data will be included in my dissertation. I have provided a brief summary at the end of this letter explaining the purpose of this research.

Please respond to the following questions with as much information as possible, attaching relevant policies or further information where required, including signposting for data which is openly obtainable elsewhere. A questionnaire has been provided for completion, however, if you are unable to use it, please answer the questions as per your Freedom of Information Act policy. No personal, confidential or identifiable data is requested and should not be included.

If any of this request is unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me, and advise where I can source such data if it is already in the public domain by providing the relevant URLs and/or document references.

I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this letter. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.

If you would like a summary of the findings of this research on completion, please provide contact details for where this is to be sent.

### **Liaison and Diversion Service Questionnaire – Mental Health Provisions for Suspects**

#### **1 Liaison and Diversion Service Team**

#### **2 Population Coverage**

#### **3 Number of Employees**

#### **4 Is there a local policy in relation to suspects with mental health problems?**

**Yes (Please attach policy if possible)**

**No**

#### **5 Please provide details of the service availability:**

a. When was the service started?

b. Which NHS or other trust provides this service?

c. Which stations provide this service?

- d. Which of these stations also have custody suites?
- e. Which days/times is this service available?
- f. What Out of Hours arrangements are there?

**6 Is a Street Triage Service in place for those with Mental Health Problems?**

**Yes (Please provide details below)**

**No (Please go to Question 6)**

- a. When was the service started?
- b. Which NHS or other trust provides this service?
- c. Which stations provide this service?
- d. Which of these stations also have custody suites?
- e. Which days/times is this service available?

**7 Further to NHS England's Liaison and Diversion Operating Model 2013/14, please provide the following key performance data by year since the Liaison and Diversion Team has been in service:**

- a. **Number of referrals**
- b. **Number of assessments**
- c. **Type of referrals (mainstream, voluntary, other) and the numbers for these**
- d. **Percentage of first appointment kept**
- e. **Percentage of follow up appointments kept**
- f. **Percentage of completed course of treatment/discharge**
- g. **Desistance rates of re-offending**
- h. **What information sharing protocols are in place**

**i. Service user satisfaction data**

**8 Please provide the number of suspects who are not diverted from the judicial court system and receive a sentence for each year since the service has been in place. Where possible, please provide the type of outcome and numbers for each for the following:**

- a. Custodial sentence**
  
- b. Community order**
  - i.) Mental Health Treatment Requirement
  
  - ii.) Drug Treatment Requirement
  
  - iii.) Alcohol Treatment Requirement
  
  - iv.) Other Treatment Requirement/Conditions
  
- c. Suspended sentence**
  
  
- d. No sentence/order**

**9 Are there any other agencies (charity, NHS, etc.) working with the Liaison and Diversion Team in relation to charged suspects with mental health? (Please provide as much detail as possible)**

**Yes (Please provide details below)**

**No (Please go to Question 10)**

**10 What validated tool is used for case identification/screening of charged suspects with mental health problems? Please name, and if possible attach copy of any adapted tools.**

- a. Validated Tool for Case Identification to Screen for Mental Health Problems name:**
  
- b. Who undertakes this assessment? (For example custody officer, arresting officer, etc.)**
  
- c. Who is responsible for making referrals for this assessment?**
  
- d. At what point is the need for assessment/referral identified?**

**11 If a charged suspect is identified as having a mental health problem, is this information provided to:**

- |                                      |            |           |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| <b>a. Local Police Force</b>         | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
| <b>b. National Probation Service</b> | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
| <b>c. Crown Prosecution Service</b>  | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| d. Local NHS Mental Health Teams        | Yes | No |
| e. Any other agencies (please specify)? | Yes | No |

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.  
If you have any further comments, please use this space below to provide them.**

**Answer:**

The Trust has reviewed your question above as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is applying section 43 of the FOI Act. Section 43 Exemption applies to Commercial Interests. As this is a qualified exemption, the public interest in withholding the information should outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

The Trust has applied the public interest test and in this instance believes disclosure of the information listed above may affect its ability to seek competitive tenders in the near future and should therefore be withheld. It also believes that given the specialism of some of the companies providing services to the Trust, disclosure may compromise their ability to participate competitively in commercial activity in the near future. This would have an adverse effect on the provision of core support services within the Trust and may result either in the loss of specialised companies able to provide cost effective, robust services, or in an increase of prices.