Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5251

18 February 2019

**Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Patients of no fixed abode.

*You asked:*
*1. For each of the last five financial years (2014/15 to 2018/19, to date) please provide the numbers of patients of No Fixed Abode recorded in the following inpatient categories: elective ordinary; elective day cases; elective ordinary planned; elective day case planned; NHS treatment centres; total non-elective*
*2. For the same time periods – again broken down by financial year – please provide the numbers of patients of No Fixed Abode recorded in the following outpatient categories: GP written referrals made; GP written referrals seen; other referrals made; All 1st outpatient attendances.*
*3. For the same time periods – again broken down by financial year – please provide the numbers of patients of No Fixed Abode recorded in the inpatients (elective) category: Patients failed to attend*
*4. For the financial year to date (2018/19) please provide the number of emergency department attendances and hospital admissions by patients of No Fixed Abode.*
*5. For the financial year to date please provide the number of referrals made by the hospital trust of those at risk of becoming homeless to a housing authority under the Homelessness (Review Procedure etc.) Regulations 2018.*

Trust response:

Please note: We selected patients with an address of "NFA", "N F A", "No Fixed*", "*homeless*", "*hostel*", "*Shelter*", or "15 Knightrider*" (a local short-stay hostel that we often see on the address fields), or with the pseudo-postcode of ZZ99 3VZ.

This probably misses some patients, as the system looks up the patient on admission, finds the latest address we have on record, and asks them to confirm it, thus missing any who decline to tell us. It's also probably missing people using an accommodation address, or resident in a shelter / hostel we are not aware of.

1819 inpatient data is inclusive for discharges up to 31-Jan-19. Applying a multiplier of 1.19 would give a reasonable estimate of a full year. A&E is up to 03-Feb, and 1.18 should be used

1.
Our categories are Elective, Daycase, Reg Daycase, Reg Night & Non Elective. We don't run any NHS treatment centre activity

| Count of DistrictNumber | ActivityType ▾ | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MonthID2 ⌄ | Daycase | Elective | Non Elective | Reg Daycase | Grand Total |
| 1415 | 6 | 2 | 114 | | 122 |
| 1516 | 7 | 1 | 92 | | 100 |
| 1617 | 3 | 2 | 96 | 10 | 111 |
| 1718 | 2 | | 106 | | 108 |
| 1819 | 1 | 1 | 108 | | 110 |
| Grand Total | 19 | 6 | 516 | 10 | 551 |

2.
Referrals Received for patients identified as homeless

| Count of CaseNoteNumber | RefBy2 ▾ | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MonthID2 ⌄ | Other | GP | Grand Total |
| 1415 | 18 | 8 | 26 |
| 1516 | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| 1617 | 14 | 14 | 28 |
| 1718 | 16 | 15 | 31 |
| 1819 | 26 | 6 | 32 |
| Grand Total | 81 | 50 | 131 |

First OP for patients identified as homeless. The GP column will effectively show all GP referrals seen

| Count of DistrictNumber | RefSource ⌄ | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MonthID2 ⌄ | Other | GP | Grand Total |
| 1415 | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| 1516 | | 1 | 1 |
| 1617 | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| 1718 | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| 1819 | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| Grand Total | 38 | 23 | 61 |

This shows a conversion rate (percentage of referrals converting to a first OP) of 45-50%.  This is lower than the general rate of around 70-75%, and much of this is to do with a very high DNA rate (~40%)

3. Our data for inpatients only records activity.  We have no reliable method of counting patients who should have arrived for an inpatient / daycase admission but did not attend.

4. So far this year (to 03-Feb), we can identify 182 attendances, of which 80 are logged as admissions.   This compares to 97 admissions on our inpatient system with an admission source of A&E, which suggests that our A&E system is undercounting / under-identifying homeless people by at least 20%.

5. We do not have access to data regarding the referrals the Trust makes. We only get referrals received