

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7074

**Please reply to:**  
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25 November 2021

## **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 Long Covid

*You asked:*

- 1. How many staff members were recorded to have had long Covid while working for your trust at any time in the period between March 2020 - September 2021?*
- 2. What were the five longest periods in days that a member of staff took a leave of absence due to long Covid in the time period between March 2020 - September 2021?*
- 3. Could you state all leave of absences taken where long Covid was cited as the cause between March 2020 and September 2021.*
- 4. Does your trust offer any specialised support for staff members living with long Covid? If so could you please provide details of these services.*
- 5. What plans, if any, are in place to improve the support available to staff members who are living with long Covid while working for your trust?*

Trust response:

1. 72 (confirmed covid over 28 days)
2. 300, 258, 179, 168, 102
3. 72 episodes, totalling 3748 days of absence
4. The Occupational Health & Wellbeing service provides support to staff with "Long COVID". Therapeutic and treatment services are delivered to groups and individuals by sessions run jointly from our Psychological and Respiratory Physiotherapy teams. Further to this we are able to make onward referrals to specialists in the Trust for individuals struggling with particular symptoms. We are also able to refer into the "Kent and Medway Post COVID Assessment Service" for further specialist assessment and referral to specialists outside of our own Trust. The Occupational Health and Wellbeing service also provides workplace assessments for these individuals to provide advice and guidance

for staff and managers around managing symptoms in the workplace and any temporary adjustments to job role and working that might be required.

5. The current service offering is regularly reviewed to assess its fitness for purpose. At this time there are no plans to extend the service beyond those outlined above. As new information and evidence becomes available, we will assess and implement recommendations as appropriate.