

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7733

Please reply to:
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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. Could you state the number of staff members who were recorded to have had Long Covid while working for your trust at any time in the period between October 2021 - October 2022?*
- 2. Could you state all leave of absences taken where Long Covid was cited as the cause between October 2021 - October 2022 and the length of time each absence lasted for.*
- 3. Does your trust offer any specialised support for staff members living with Long Covid? If so could you please provide details of these services?*

Trust response:

1. From 1 September 21 to 31 August 2022 (our latest reporting period for sickness) there were 20 members of staff off with 'Long Covid' based on the sickness being recorded as [Absence Reason] = 'S27 Infectious diseases' and [Related Reason] = 'Coronavirus (COVID-19)' and off for more than 28 days.

2.

Absence Start Date	Absence End Date	No. of days
05/01/2021	04/11/2021	303
08/04/2021	04/10/2021	179
03/06/2021	08/03/2022	278
26/08/2021	14/10/2021	49
09/10/2021	07/11/2021	29
19/10/2021	19/11/2021	31
03/11/2021	05/12/2021	32

16/12/2021	04/03/2022	78
29/12/2021	17/06/2022	170
04/01/2022	31/08/2022	239
09/01/2022	03/04/2022	84
20/02/2022	12/04/2022	51
21/02/2022	28/03/2022	35
03/03/2022	01/04/2022	29
25/03/2022	29/04/2022	35
04/04/2022	02/05/2022	28
09/04/2022	12/06/2022	64
23/04/2022	22/05/2022	29
13/06/2022	31/08/2022	79
23/06/2022	12/08/2022	50
05/07/2022	07/08/2022	33

3. 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.