

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7764

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Maidstone Hospital
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone, Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net
www.mtw.nhs.uk

18 November 2022

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 Mental health long waits.

You asked:

- 1. For each of the financial years from 2016-17 to 2021-22 and for 2022-23 to the latest completed month (likely end of October 2022), please outline how many mental health patients* have had waits in emergency departments, from decision to admit to admission, discharge, or transfer of a) between 12 and 24 hours b) 24 to 48 hours c) 48 to 72 hours d) 72 hours or more?*
- 2. For each financial year, please provide the length of wait for all occurrences of individual waits lasting 72 hours or more.*
- 3. Please provide a list of occasions (with patient identifying details redacted) where the trust has contacted a partnering mental health trust, CCG, ICS, NHS England or other statutory body to notify that there were no mental health beds available within a) the ICS area b) the NHS region c) England, Scotland or Wales.*
- 4. As per the national Core 24 target, does your trust have an emergency mental health liaison team/liaison psychiatry team available to patients attending emergency departments? **
- 5. If yes, please provide a breakdown of staff employed in these roles by role, band and whether they are full-time equivalent or other. ***
- 6. If yes, please provide details as regards the hours the team are available to patients and typical staffing levels during those hours. ***

Trust response:

1. It may be possible that this information has been entered into a patients record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request.

The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

2. The Trust reports all 12-hour breaches details of which can be found using this link: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ae-waiting-times-and-activity/>

Further more detailed information may have been entered onto the patient record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

3. This question can be answered by Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust please contact them for further information.

Freedom of Information (FOI) team

St Michaels House

St Michaels Road

Sittingbourne

Kent ME10 3DW

01795 514528

kmpt.infoaccess@nhs.net

4. The Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Liaison Psychiatry Service is provided by Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust. The on-site team provides mental health support to patients attending A&E / Emergency Department (ED) or when admitted as an inpatient to one of the wards across Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust (MTW). Services are available onsite at both Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals.

The team work very closely with MTW staff to allow patients' mental health to be treated alongside any physical health problems. We are working to ensure patients experiencing mental ill health are treated appropriately whilst under the care of the hospital.

5. These staff are employed by Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust please contact them for further information.

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