

Our Ref: PW/TLR/FOI/0624/890

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

22nd July 2024

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-0624-890

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email received on Monday 15th July 2024. We can advise that the team have reviewed your query and would advise the following:

For question 2, I am interested in services that receive direct referrals from GPs (as opposed to self-referrals). If I remove the constraint of *who* conducts the first appointment, which you have stated you do not hold and is prohibiting you from answering, I expect you will be able to answer question 2 and subsequent questions 3-10.

As advised in our original response, the ICB do not hold this information, the information would need to be obtained from the provider, in this case which would be Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust (MPFT) and North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust (NSCHT). These are the only two providers that the ICB have contracts with for mental health services.

To obtain this information please direct your request to MPFT and NSCHT, who will be able to provide the information requested.

For each provider, please provide:

- 3) the service name
- 4) Please state the clinician role who provides that first appointment (i.e. is clinically responsible for) the service. I am not interested in personally identifiable information, I am interested in the position, e.g. psychologist or mental health nurse
- 5) the service specification (whether standalone or integrated in a broader service specification)
- 6) the total number of referrals received in NHS Financial Year 2023/24
- 7) the total number of patients who started treatment in NHS Financial Year 2023/24
- 8) the total spend on the service in NHS Financial Year 2023/24
- 9) the current wait time
- 10) the current size of the waiting list and the date this was correct at

With regard to the remaining questions above, there are no Mental Health services that are GP referral only, they can be accessed through a range of referral mechanisms, including the GP. As this is GP data, the ICB does not have access to it and we cannot therefore provide information on GP referrals only, this would have to be obtained from the practices.

Mental Health Services are multidisciplinary, the first appointment could be with a number of professionals. The ICB does not hold the information and does not collect information on how patients are referred to individual services or the professional role that provides the first appointment.

The ICB cannot create information to satisfy a request, it is only obliged to provide what it already holds and as the ICB does not collect or hold the requested information we are not able to provide this to you.

“You do not have to create new information in response to a request. FOIA only applies to any recorded information which you already held at the time of a request”

The quote is from the weblink below:

[Request handling, Freedom of Information – Frequently Asked Questions | ICO](#)

As advised above, our contracts are with MPFT and NSCHT who will have this information.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board’s FOI complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner’s Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance