

Information Governance

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31 August 2017

Reference no. 17180147

Dear

Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email of 4 August, making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

Request:

The total number of people under the age of 20, broken down by age and year, who have accessed mental health support since 2007, citing cannabis use as either a primary or adjunctive reason for seeking treatment.

Response:

The Trust is unable to comply with this area of your request as to do so would require the Trust to exceed the appropriate limit. The information is not held in a structured or reportable form and the Trust would have to manually review thousands (a minimum of 20000) of electronic and paper based health records in order to collate the information you require. To provide the information requested even if it only took 1 minute per record, would involve a minimum of 333 hours work. The appropriate limit set in regulation by section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act is 18 hours.

It is difficult to advise if reducing the scope of the request even to as little as 1 year would bring it within the appropriate limit, since the information is unstructured and requires manual review. The 1 minute estimate is illustrative, and likely to be an underestimate. 33 hours would still be required at a minimum.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so

within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a 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 complaints procedure provided by the Trust for FoI Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance