

FOI REF: 23/020

7th February 2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- Please provide the total number of A&E attendances by patients of No Fixed Abode/Address for each of the financial years from 2011/12 to 2021/2022.**

Financial Year	Attendances
2011/12	374
2012/13	340
2013/14	453
2014/15	435
2015/16	443
2016/17	660
2017/18	647
2018/19	623
2019/20	702
2020/21	358
2021/22	278

- Please also provide the number of these individuals (as outlined in Q1) who were admitted with a primary/secondary diagnosis of drug poisoning.**

Clarification was sought with regard to question 2, which of the 2 options below do you mean;

- 1) the number of these individuals (from Q1) who attended/were admitted into A&E with a primary/secondary diagnosis of drug poisoning or**

Cont.../

- 2) the number of these individuals (from Q1) who were admitted into the hospital (as Inpatient/hospital admission) with a primary/secondary diagnosis of drug poisoning and confirmation was received as follow:

Q2 is a follow on to Q1 and so refers to A&E. Q4 is a follow on to Q3 and so refers to hospital.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not record patients that are admitted with a primary/secondary diagnosis of drug poisoning, only the clinical outcomes. The Trust also does not centrally record the clinical outcomes. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of patients notes which we estimate would take longer than the 18-hour timescale. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

3. **Please provide the total number of hospital admissions by patients of No Fixed Abode/Address for each of the same financial years.**

Financial Year	Admissions
2011/12	70
2012/13	52
2013/14	112
2014/15	111
2015/16	97
2016/17	106
2017/18	167
2018/19	165
2019/20	160
2020/21	89
2021/22	43

4. Please also provide the number of these individuals (as outlined in Q3) who were admitted with a primary/secondary diagnosis of drug poisoning.

Financial Year	Drug Poisoning Admissions
2011/12	17
2012/13	5
2013/14	20
2014/15	22
2015/16	19
2016/17	18
2017/18	34
2018/19	51
2019/20	19
2020/21	11
2021/22	5

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net