

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: [EPUT.FOI.19.1111](#)
Date Received: [12th June 2019](#)

Information Requested:

1. I would like to request the following information under the freedom of information act.
2. I would like to know how many prisoners in your area were prescribed medication for mental health issues in each of the last five years, from 2013 to 2018 inclusive.
3. I would like to receive this information in accessible excel format, with one figure given for each year.

Response:

From 2013 to 2018 we have provided a SLA to HMP Bedford which ceased in 2016, and HMP Chelmsford which ceased at the end of the financial year 2018/19.

Information we currently hold only provides numbers of patients dispensed items to the HMPs.

There is no known means to filter dispensed items to the FOI request for how many prisoners in our SLA's area were prescribed medication for mental health issues. To determine this would require a manual trawl which would exceed the time and cost limits, as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit*

HMP Chelmsford dispensing patient numbers	HMP Bedford dispensing patient numbers
2018	2013
1414	812
2019	2014
882	1980
	2015
	1726
	2016
	646

***Exemption: Section 12 (Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit):**

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.

(3) In subsections (1) and (2) "the appropriate limit" means such amount as may be prescribed, and different amounts may be prescribed in relation to different cases.

(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that, in such circumstances as may be prescribed, where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority—

(a) by one person, or

(b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign, the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them.

(5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the purposes of this section as to the costs to be estimated and as to the manner in which they are to be estimated

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk/>