

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: [EPUT.FOI.19.1149](#)
Date Received: [9th July 2019](#)

Information Requested:

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to you for details of Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust's strategy to reduce the number of patients sent out of area for mental health rehabilitation.

An out of area placement is defined by NHS England as:

'...when a person with assessed rehabilitation mental health needs who requires adult mental health rehabilitation inpatient care, is admitted to a unit that does not form part of their usual local network of services. By this we mean an inpatient unit that does not usually admit people living in the catchment of the person's local community mental health service.' Specifically, a person is considered out of area if they are currently receiving inpatient rehabilitation outside of the Local Authority area that holds responsibility for their future housing.

Some out of area placements are appropriate. For example, if a person requires treatment in a 'highly specialist inpatient rehabilitation unit' as defined by the CQC for people with very specific and complex mental health needs and co-morbidities (e.g. psychosis plus acquired brain injury, severe personality disorder, or autism spectrum disorder), as these are usually provided at a regional or national level.

We would like to know the following information:

Please respond using April's data, to ensure consistency of all trust data

1. As of April 2019, how many NHS inpatient rehabilitation beds do you have in the care of your Trust?

[The Trust has 11 rehabilitation beds, Ipswich Rd, Colchester \(Essex wide service\).](#)

As of April 2019, how many people are placed in an inpatient rehabilitation unit outside the care of your Trust?

[North Essex CCG holds the Register for Essex.](#)

2. As of April 2019, of those patients placed out of area in inpatient rehabilitation units, how many are there appropriately because of their highly specialist needs?

[North Essex CCG holds the Register for Essex.](#)

3. Do you have a local strategy to minimise the use of out of area rehabilitation placements? If so, please provide brief details or attach a copy of any strategy to your response. This should include,
[The North Essex CCG's are leading on and completing a strategy aligned with national guidance that considers these points .](#)
4. How out of area placements are agreed in your area
[The North Essex CCG/Commissioners hold the register.](#)
5. The process for reviewing anyone placed out of area (and potentially bringing them back to a local service)
[EPUT Care Coordinators complete reviews for patients placed in specialist placements when requested.](#)
6. Do you have a local community mental health rehabilitation team? If so, please briefly describe their remit, including the characteristics of the clients with whom they are commissioned to work (e.g. those in local high supported accommodation, those returning from an out of area placement etc)
[The North Essex CCG/Commissioners is currently exploring this as part of their strategy.](#)
7. How many local mental health rehabilitation beds have been decommissioned in your Trust in the last five years and how many local beds to you plan to decommission in future?
[We closed 10 beds in Churchview in 2015.](#)

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>