Information Requested:

I am looking for information about the length of time children and young people experiencing their first episode of psychosis wait to start assessment once they have been referred to a specialist mental health service at the Trust.

1. What is the Trust’s target waiting time for a child or young person experiencing their first episode of psychosis to start assessment after being referred to a specialist mental health service at the Trust?

   Please note that the Trust has different service lines for Inpatient Services and the Community Services who treat these patients. Therefore both responses have been provided below.

   **Specialist Services:**
   No target waiting time as the Trust provides in-patient beds only. Once a referral is received and accepted for admission the bed is immediately available.

   **Community / Essex Support and Treatment for Early Psychosis:**
   The national standard is for this to happen within 2 weeks.

2. How many children and young people experiencing their first episode of psychosis were referred to the Trust for assessment in 2019/20?

   **Specialist Services:**
   The number of young people discharged with a diagnosis of first episode psychosis from the St. Aubyn Centre in 2019/2020 to date is 36

   **Essex Support and Treatment for Early Psychosis:**
   In 2019/2020 – 437 referred for suspected psychosis. Numbers accepted in that period as having psychosis is 161.

3. On average, how long did children and young people experiencing their first episode of psychosis wait for their assessment to start after being referred in 2019/20?

   **Specialist Services:**
   There is no wait time following acceptance for admission to an in-patient bed.

   **Essex Support and Treatment for Early Psychosis:**
   Please see response to Question 1 regarding the National standard. The Trust endeavours to book an assessment on the day the referral is received (usually within 7 days). During the Covid-19 Pandemic it has been more challenging due to not being able to see people face to face and the Trust has used a mixture of digital platforms and some face to face assessments.
4. How many children and young people experiencing their first episode of psychosis who have been referred to the Trust are currently waiting to start their assessment?

**Specialist Services:**
N/A – no waiting list for admission

**Essex Support and Treatment for Early Psychosis:**
As of 06/10/2020 - In the South West locality there are 2 people who have been referred that are due to be assessed imminently. 22 referrals were received in September 2020

In the South East locality 16 referrals were received in September and all of them have been offered assessments. Two are due to be assessed imminently who were referred on 30/09/2020

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**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](https://eput.nhs.uk)