

## Freedom of Information Request

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**Reference Number:** EPUT.FOI.23.2936  
**Date Received:** 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2023

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### Information Requested:

This FOI request relates to people admitted to psychiatric inpatient wards who are parents.

By 'inpatient ward' we refer to: any ward that provides primarily psychiatric care, that has provision for overnight use, including locked and unlocked wards; including male, female, and mixed wards; including rehabilitation and forensic wards.

We do not need data relating to wards that are (or were during time period in question) exclusively delivering care to patients with dementia, or exclusively delivering care to older adults, or exclusively delivering care to children and adolescents (CAMHS).

Where possible please provide data on forensic wards separately from other types of ward.

By 'parent', we refer to any individual who has a child/children aged under 18 years (this can include step/foster/adopted/biological children). These parents need not necessarily have current caring responsibility (e.g. their child/children could be in temporary foster care).

We also include as a 'parent' any individual who has any other formal residential caring responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (e.g. where a grandparent has parental responsibility for a grandchild).

We are seeking data covering the period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2019 inclusive.

Please provide the following data, as far as is reasonably possible:

#### 1. Admissions Data

a. How many individual admissions (for one night or more) were made to each psychiatric inpatient ward in the Trust. This question refers to all patient admissions, not just parents. If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

Please note that the trust's policy is not to provide patient or staff numbers, where the response is less than or equal to five ( $\leq 5$ ) as it would potentially allow identification of the individual patient/staff and would therefore be personal data.

The trust considers that release of that information would breach GDPR/DPA18 principles on the grounds that it would not be fair in all the circumstances. This information is therefore exempt under section 40 of the FOI Act 2000.

Ward	No. Admissions	Average Age on Admission	Ward Gender Type
AdultMH - Ardleigh	178	37	Female
AdultMH - Basildon - Grangewater	289	40	Mixed
AdultMH - Basildon - Kelvedon	87	41	Male
AdultMH - Basildon - Thorpe	508	39	Mixed
AdultMH - Chelmer, Derwent	241	40	Female
AdultMH - Finchingfield	280	39	Male
AdultMH - Galleywood	243	37	Female
AdultMH - Gosfield	266	38	Male
AdultMH - Rochford - Cedar	208	39	Male
AdultMH - Rochford - Willow	≤5	64	Female
AdultMH - Stort	231	40	Male
AdultMH - The Christopher Unit	108	36	Mixed
AdultMH - Topaz ward	46	78	Mixed
Assessment Unit - Basildon	2233	38	Mixed
Assessment Unit - Peter Bruff	1248	38	Mixed
Forensic - Brockfield - Alpine	23	37	Male
Forensic - Brockfield - Causeway	13	40	Female
Forensic - Brockfield - Dune	15	35	Male
Forensic - Brockfield - Forest	≤5	42	Male
Forensic - Brockfield - Fuji	13	40	Female
Forensic - Brockfield - Lagoon	28	39	Male
Forensic - Luton - Robin Pinto	13	36	Male
Forensic - TheGlade - Wood Lea Clinic	11	38	Male
LearnDisab - HeathClose - Byron Court	30	32	Mixed
PICU - Basildon - Hadleigh Unit	99	34	Mixed
Rehab - 439 Ipswich Road	≤5	47	Mixed
Secure Services - Edward House	23	43	Male
Mother and baby - The Rainbow Unit	73	32	Female

b. How many of the patients reported under 1.a. were parents (as defined above)?

If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

The Trust is not able to answer question 1(b) as parental status is not captured on our data systems.

## 2. Parental Status Data Collection

a. What data are routinely collected on parental status when inpatients are admitted or during their care? For example, are any of the following recorded: parenthood status, parental responsibility, children's age, involvement of statutory services, where child currently resides? Is any other related information routinely recorded?

The Trust does put family members' with whom contact details are shared including those under 18 onto the Trust's clinical system under MPI Central Index as 'Associated People'. If children are known to statutory services, the Trust can add this information to 'Safeguarding Children' section. The Trust documents in clinical notes if the patient has parental responsibilities from our handover from AMHPs, urgent care and community teams.

The Trust links with families and carers, and any others who provide parental care to ensure wellbeing of children and make suitable referrals to relevant services (social care, safeguarding) if needed. There is also a separate form on Electronic records system which records information regarding children.

All patients admitted to Rainbow Mother and Baby Unit are either parents to an infant under 1yr or are an expectant parent as the unit also admits women from 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of pregnancy.

Details in regards to Parental responsibility, name and date of birth of all children of the patient are recorded as part of the referral process. Any other child that is resident with the patient is also recorded. The locality and residence of all children is recorded along with who holds PR, who has care responsibility and any local authority involvement.

This information is also then documented within the patient record.

Baby's on the unit are not 'admitted' they are here as legally dependant guests however have some locally kept care records, within these records all infants have a care plan that also refers to who lives in their household, who else is involved in their care, any local authority involvement, plan or order.

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We can neither confirm nor deny whether some of the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested is not held in an easily retrievable format, but may be recorded in individual records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: cost of compliance is excessive. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

## 3. Trust/ward policies and procedures

a. Please provide copies of Trust policy documents which include reference to the needs of psychiatric inpatients who are parents and their families (e.g. family visit policies).

Please see attached

b. Please provide copies of any internal guidelines/SOPs used by wards to manage child visits to wards.

The Trust does not have a specific SOP for this

c. Please provide a copy of each inpatient ward induction/welcome pack for inpatients.

Please see attached

d. Please provide a copy of any written information provided to carers of inpatients.

Please see attached

e. Please provide a copy of information provided to the carers of children of inpatients while they are inpatients (e.g. foster carer, grandparent).

Please see attached

f. Please provide a copy of any information provided to child(ren) of inpatients. For items a-f, please state if no such materials exist.

The Trust does not have information specifically to give to those under 18.

4. Child visits.

a. During the reporting period, how many parents received at least one visit from their child/ren during their inpatient ward admission?

The Trust is unable to answer question 4 as child visits are not captured on our data systems.

b. During the reporting period, how many individual visits were made by children to inpatient psychiatric wards?

Please see response above

5. Family-friendly facilities

a. Please provide a description of any family visit room(s) on each inpatient ward (include details of fixtures and fittings).

All wards have access to visiting rooms. These are not specifically for under 18yrs as they are used for all family/friends visits. Apart from the PICUs (psychiatric intensive care units) the visiting rooms are shared by each site which have two wards per site. The Rochford Site back in 2018-2019 had one family visiting room, however the site now has two family visiting rooms. All visiting rooms are located close to the main reception areas. It is not possible to provide details of the furniture during the period of Jan 18 to Dec 19 as most of the visiting rooms have since been refurbished or repurposed.

The Rainbow Mother and Baby Unit patients' partner and baby's second parent have open access to all communal areas on the ward to support a family approach to recovery and support the non-admitted parent to engage and be as fully involved in their child's care as possible.

The unit has an activity room which is openly accessible to patients but can also be booked as a private visiting space. All child visits must take place in the activity room for the safeguarding and respect of all Mothers and the visiting child. Please see attached picture within the welcome booklet. Visits can also take place within the garden, the unit has indoor and outdoor toys, board games and colouring equipment that is offered to visiting children

b. For each family room, state whether it is used solely for the purpose of family visits.

c. Please provide a photograph of each family room (a snapshot from a phone is fine).

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Please see attached photos of the family facilities

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### Applied Exemption:

#### Section 40 (Personal information):

- (1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.
- (2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—
  - (a) it constitutes personal data which do not fall within subsection (1), and
  - (b) either the first or the second condition below is satisfied.
- (3) The first condition is—
  - (a) in a case where the information falls within any of paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of "data" in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene—
    - (i) any of the data protection principles, or
    - (ii) section 10 of that Act (right to prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress), and
  - (b) in any other case, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene any of the data protection principles if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (which relate to manual data held by public authorities) were disregarded.
- (4) The second condition is that by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 2018 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(c) of that Act (data subject's right of access to personal data).
- (5) The duty to confirm or deny—
  - (a) does not arise in relation to information which is (or if it were held by the public authority would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1), and
  - (b) does not arise in relation to other information if or to the extent that either—
    - (i) the giving to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the

- data protection principles or section 10 of the Data Protection Act 2018 or would do so if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of that Act were disregarded, or
- (ii) by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 2018 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(a) of that Act

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**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

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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>