

17 April 2019

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
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Our Ref: FOI/03203

Thank you for your request concerning our total spend and waiting times for the past 10 years.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

- 1. Please could you provide information on your total spend on those working in mental health services across the Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, annually, from 2008 to 2018 inclusive. This includes agency mental health nurses, CPNs and mental health support workers.**

**Please could this information be broken down into annual datasets, and also broken down by role, if possible.**

To provide you with this level breakdown would require a manual search of our accounting systems and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450<sup>1</sup>.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

We are able to provide you with the past ten years of annual accounts, some of which are already publically available<sup>2</sup>. Please follow this [link](#) for our 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2018-19 financial reports. I attach the remaining 6 years of reports for your perusal.

- 2. Please could you also provide information on the average waiting times for those requesting mental health services in the same time period, from when they have requested a service to when they are seen.**

**Clarity Received : Mental Health Services For Adults provided by Hertfordshire Partnership Foundation Trust including: Acute and Rehabilitation services (including Inpatient Services, Acute Day Treatment Units and rehabilitation services) and Adult Community Mental Health services.**

To provide you with this level of data would require a high level of data validation and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450<sup>1</sup>.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

<sup>2</sup> Section 21 – Information is accessible through other means has been applied

For example over the past 3 years there were 1,975 examples of cases from our Adult Community Mental Health services alone which exceeded the waiting time guidelines. The Trust doesn't currently report on the number of days by which a case has gone over the guidelines. In order to generate an average, each of these 'breached' cases would have to be individually reviewed and validated.

It is estimated that it would take approximately 10 minutes to validate each case, i.e. 329 hours @ £25ph = £8,229.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

*Sue Smith*

**Sue Smith**  
**Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

