

25 February 2020

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/03546

Thank you for your request concerning DBT and Psychotherapy Waiting Times.

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

- 1. I am writing to put in an official request regarding waiting times for therapies that the Trust offers. I am primarily interested in the records of HPFT waiting lists for DBT and Psychotherapy in Herts for the most recent year.**

I can confirm that we do offer DBT and Psychotherapy in our secondary care Community Teams but cannot provide the waiting times as per your request. This is because if a service user was to receive these therapies it would be recorded in our electronic patient record (EPR) as a clinical note and these notes cannot be interrogated in the database. We do not have a specific reporting system for Psychology that can be separated for these specifically named therapies in this way.

However, under Section 16 – Duty To Provide Advice and Assistance we are able to provide the below information on DBT.

Currently we are trialling an online system that will significantly improve the accuracy of reporting, but please be aware that under the FOIA the right of access is to the information which is held, not information which is accurate.

We have collected some data for a 3 month period in 2019 for DBT. It covers the baseline period 01/04/2019 to 01/06/2019. This baseline was based on the paper record and therefore subject to considerable potential error in reporting. Wait here is defined as waiting since referral to psychological therapies and some individuals may have had considerable waits prior to referral into this part of the service. Average wait during this period varied enormously dependent on area of Hertfordshire.

1st April 2019 to 1st July 2019	Monthly Average Referrals For Whole Trust This equals total number of referrals for this intervention across all ACMH Psychological services team within the 3 month period divided by 3 to give a monthly average.	Longest Wait During This Period This is not an average but of all those waiting this is the longest time waited by anyone	Monthly Average This is the sum of all those offered a treatment start for DBT across all ACMH Psychological services team within the 3 month period divided by 3	Monthly Average Waiting For DBT? This equals the sums of longest wait times (in days) for all those waiting for DBT in the 3 month period divided by the number of people (n)
Whole Trust data around waits for DBT	30	363 days	6 per month	41

Should you require further clarification, 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](#).

