

26 January 2022

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Our Ref: FOI/04052

Thank you for your request concerning Inappropriate Out of Area Placements.

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

I would like to request, under the freedom of information act, the following information for adult acute inpatient mental health services in Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust.

- 1. The longest time a patient has been on an inappropriate Out of Area Placement (as of 15 June 2021). Please provide the number of days of the longest inappropriate Out of Area Placement that is still active.**

*For questions 1 and 2 we are using this finance year (April 2021-March 2022) as the scope of data.*

As of 15 June 2021, the longest Out of Area placement is 75 days.

- 2. The average duration patients are sent out of their area inappropriately for (as of 15 June 2021).**

As of 15 June 2021 the average duration is 67 days.

- 3. The number of patients that have been placed out of their area for more than 365 days (as of 15 June 2021). Please include inappropriate Out of Area Placements that are still active.**

Zero.

- 4. How you are planning to eliminate inappropriate Out of Area Placements and what you have already done to eliminate inappropriate Out of Area Placements.**

- Alternatives to admission-partnerships with third sector, improved gatekeeping and support in the community
- Capacity- Block purchase of 10 beds from local private provider, focus work on reducing length of stay in hospital, weekly delayed transfer of care meetings
- Facilitating discharge- weekly review of service users in out of area placements involving consultant psychiatrist attending ward rounds , daily capacity and demand meetings involving Ward Staff, Liaison, Crisis Resolution And Home Treatment Teams (CRHTT), Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHPS), Senior Leaders and Clinicians to support decision making.
- Treatment benchmarking with other organisations, making every day count, Joint inpatient & community review of all new admissions within first 72 hrs.



**5. The date you are planning to eliminate inappropriate Out of Area Placements by.**

We are currently working on a target of 31/03/2022 to ensure all out of area placements are eliminated.

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](#).

