

17 May 2022

Information Rights & Compliance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: Hpft.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/04066

Thank you for your request concerning Associate Hospital Manager Hearing Stats.

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

I am writing to make a Freedom of Information Act request that you provide me with the data held by Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust in relation to hearings convened under the s.23 discharge power contained in the Mental Health Act 1983 (s.23 MHA 1983). These hearings are generally referred to as Hospital Managers' Hearings, Associate Hospital Managers' Hearings, or Hospital Managers' Panels.

A similar request to that outlined below was made in 2018/19, and in most cases produced data up to the year 2017/18. This is a request for updated statistical information to be released taking in the years 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 (running April to March for each year).

If data is held at both a hospital level and the same data is also centrally aggregated within the Trust, then I would only like access to the central dataset.

Information included in such a dataset(s) might include, but may not be limited to:

- 1. Number of hearings scheduled, which may include a breakdown by type of hearing (e.g. divided by type of section (section 2, 3 etc.), and/or type of hearing (e.g. s.20 renewal, s.25 barring order)).**

Please see attached.

- 2. Number of discharges, perhaps broken down by type of section/ hearing.**

Please see attached.

- 3. Number of times a hearing request was refused because of the proximity of a Mental Health Tribunal hearing (38.13 MHA 1983 Code of Practice, 2015).**

This information is not recorded¹. We do not record the number of times a hearing request was refused.

¹ Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

4. Number of hearings cancelled before the hearing took place, with reasons (e.g. Responsible Clinician discharged patient, Tribunal discharged patient).

This information is not recorded¹. We cannot provide the breakdown as requested because we do not record reasons why the hearing was cancelled. We record whether a patient was discharged from section prior to hearing for MHAM hearings.

5. Number of hearings held, perhaps broken down by type of section/ hearing (e.g. paper hearing).

This information is not recorded¹. We do not record whether a hearing is held as a paper review or "full" hearing.

6. Number of adjournments, perhaps broken down by type of section/ hearing.

Please see attached.

7. Attendees at the hearing. For example, the number of times a patient attended, or was accompanied by their legal represented, or their Nearest Relative.

This information is not recorded¹. We do not record whether patients attend and are currently unable to report on whether the patient is accompanied by their legal representative or Nearest Relative.

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](#).

