

Request

Dear Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust,

Please could I make a Freedom of Information Request regarding your organisation's use of Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU), which gives patients and their carers the flexibility to arrange their follow-up appointments as and when they need them. PIFU is sometimes also referred to as open-access follow-up, patient led follow-up, patient triggered follow-up, see on symptom, open appointments, open-self referral appointments or patient-activated care.

Please complete the attached FOI questions. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

1. Please complete the below table, providing figures in relation to the number of patients waiting to start consultant-led Referral to Treatment (RTT), outpatients and Patient Initiated Follow-up (PIFU), which gives patients and their carers the flexibility to arrange their follow-up appointments as and when they need them.

As at February 2022	Total Number of Patients
Total number of RTT patients waiting to start treatment	
Total number of outpatients	
Of those outpatients, how many are eligible to go on a PIFU pathway	
Of those eligible, how many have been offered to go on a PIFU pathway	
Of those offered, how many are currently placed on a PIFU pathway	

1. Are all outpatients included in the RTT patient numbers? Yes/no
2. Does your organisation currently have technology in place to accommodate PIFU pathways? For example, a patient engagement tool for booking PIFU appointments etc.
  - a. Who is the supplier of the system?
  - b. Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU
3. Does your organisation have a clinical task management tool to support PIFU which aids escalation and intervention for patients that could be lost to follow-up or their circumstances have changed
  - a. Who is the supplier of the system?
  - b. Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU
  - c. What job role is responsible for making purchasing decisions around task management software at your organisations? E.g. Chief Operating Officer, Chief Information Officer
4. Does your organisation have an employee or team whose role is involved in administering/co-ordinating PIFU? If yes, please state the number of FTEs involved in PIFU
5. Please complete the table for each of the specialties listed:

Specialty	How many days a month were outpatient clinics run in February 2022?	What specialties are PIFU currently implemented in? (tick for yes)
Mental Health		
Cardiology		
Dermatology		
Diabetes		
Endocrinology		
Gastroenterology		
Geriatric Medicine		
Gynaecology		
Hepatology		
Neurology		
Oncology		
Ophthalmology		
Palliative medicine		
Paediatrics services		
Physiotherapy		
Rehabilitation		
Renal medicine		
Respiratory		
Rheumatology		
Colorectal surgery		
Breast Surgery Service		
Ear, Nose and Throat		
General Surgery		
Orthopaedics and Trauma		
Orthoptics		
Pain management		
Plastic surgery		
Thoracic medicine		
Urology		
Vascular surgery		
Audiology Service		
Other		

6. How is your organisation measuring the impact of PIFU in these specialties? e.g. size of waiting list, number of weeks patients are waiting for treatment, number of outpatient attendances
7. Has the implementation of PIFU reduced the operating hours of outpatient clinics? if so, by what percentage since implementation

#### Response

Please note that the Trust is unable to provide a response to your query, this is because the Trust do not have/use a PIFU pathway.