

## FOI 0256/2023

### **Request**

I would like to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, the following information regarding inappropriate out of area placements in children and young people's mental health services.

Definition of inappropriate out of area placement (OAP): An 'out of area placement' (OAP) occurs when a child or young person who requires mental health inpatient care is admitted to a unit that does not form part of their usual local network of services because no bed is available for them locally.

Please can you provide for all following questions data for children and young people's mental health services and inappropriate OAPs.

Q1: Total number of monthly inpatient admissions and yearly totals from January 2017 to December 2022.

Q2: Total number of monthly inappropriate OAPs and yearly totals from January 2017 to December 2022:

- Number of inappropriate OAP days per month
- Number of inappropriate OAPs active at the end of each month
- Number of inappropriate OAPs started each month
- Number of inappropriate OAPs ended each month

Q3: The monthly lengths of inappropriate OAPs and yearly totals from January 2017 to December 2022:

- In these breakdowns if possible: a) 1-30 nights, b) 31-90 nights, c) 91 or more nights
- average, longest, shortest stay (as of the last day of the year)

Q4: The monthly distance travelled for inappropriate OAPs from January 2017 to December 2022:

- In these breakdowns if possible: a) less than 50km, b) 50km or greater and less than 100km, c) 100km or greater and less than 300km, d) 300km or greater
- average, longest, shortest distance (as of the last day of the year). For longest and shortest distance please include the receiving provider/inpatient unit.

Q5: The monthly cost of inappropriate OAPs and yearly totals from January 2017 to December 2022:

- Total cost for inappropriate out of area placements each month
- Average cost per bed day each month

Q6: Yearly totals of receiving providers of inappropriate OAPs, so the number of patients sent to each receiving provider per year as well as the proportion of receiving providers that are private providers.

Q7: Yearly average, youngest and oldest age of children and young people on inappropriate OAPs.

## **Response**

The Trust is unable to provide a response to your query.

This is because the Trust do not explicitly have Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) beds and as such we are not responsible for placing our Service Users in acute beds when needed.

Children and young people can be placed anywhere in the country with different providers, managing different beds which are often priced differently . The provider collaborative , manage all bed searches alongside NHS England .

Please also note that the Trust is explicitly contracted to provide CAMHS community services for the Solihull brough. Forward Thinking Birmingham (FTB) under Women and Children's Trust provide the comparative service for Birmingham.

The Trust recommends that you reach out to NHS England for the requested information.