

FOI 030/2023 Response

Request

Dear Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Under The Freedom of Information Act 2000, could you kindly answer the following questions:

1. How much has your Trust spent on specialist bariatric equipment for obese/bariatric patients (patients over 160kg) during the last five financial years? Please give a figure for each year: 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.

2. How many patients needed special adaptations due to their weight in the past 12 months?

3. Please give a breakdown of the amounts spent by the Trust by the type of specialist bariatric equipment.

3.1 If equipment is used on a rental contract basis, please provide a list of contracts, including the values and suppliers.

4. How many bariatric beds does the Trust own?

5. How many bariatric fridges does the Trust own?

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Response

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

This is because we do not readily capture the requested information and obtaining this data will require exhaustive and manual measures that exceed the threshold of carrying out this task.

The Trust therefore rely on exemption Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request.

However the Trust can confirm from 2018 to present that the total spend on specialist bariatric equipment for obese/bariatric patients is : £14,071.28.

Please note the following:

- The Bariatric Policy has been amended to only include patients who can mobilise and therefore reduces the need for wheelchairs, wide doorways, lifts, and hoists.

- The Trust is not distinguishing bariatric admissions from any other mental health need for admission. The policy acknowledges the need for more robust equipment, and equipment will be arranged by each ward on a hire basis.