

## FOI 0241 2024 Response

I am making a Freedom of Information request about the following topics: Clarification: Request is in relation to community services.

### **1. Does your Trust provide mental health services for children and young people?**

Yes, Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, Barnardo's, and Autism West Midlands work together to provide emotional wellbeing and mental health services for children and young people in Solihull within our Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (Solar).

Solar is a secondary care service which accepts referrals from children, young people, and parents/carers themselves, alongside referrals from professionals.

Solar provides multi-disciplinary assessment and treatment of children and young people with mental health or severe emotional and behavioural difficulties. The service currently accepts children and young people, until their 18th birthday, who are residents in the borough of Solihull, go to school or college in the Solihull area, or have a Solihull GP.

Please note, that for information on children and young people in receipt of CAMHS services in Birmingham, please redirect your request to Forward Thinking Birmingham Service which is hosted by Birmingham Women's and Children's Trust.

### **2. NHS England has decided that referrals to children and young people's gender services must come from NHS Paediatric or mental health services. It has said that this will come into effect from 1 September 2024 to allow time for NHS services to adjust their operating protocols. Please outline what changes you have made to your operating protocols in response to this decision by NHS England and what date these changes were made by.**

There have been minimal changes that have been introduced and some changes are pending.

The Trust can confirm the following:

- The portal for referrals to CAMHS is monitored, and uploaded referrals are downloaded and booked into the daily screening.
- The referrals are screened to see if they are already known to the services or if they are new referrals.
- All Solar staff to be aware of the referral process into the gender service.

### **3. Can you identify:**

#### **a. Which staff assess patients requesting access to gender services-**

Any staff members that are working directly with a CAMHS service user.

#### **b. Which staff decide whether to refer onward to gender services**

Discussions will be held within the post assessment discussion which is led by senior managers.

**c. What is the basis of the decision whether to refer to gender services**

The basis of this is if a CAMHS service user is requesting support around their gender identity.

**4. Please outline any training your trust provides staff around trans healthcare. Please include:**

**a. the title of the training:**

Transgender awareness sessions.

**b. the length of the training :**

2 hrs, multiple training.

**c. who provides the training:**

Trans inclusion project from the BLGBT centre.

**d. what staff group it is for:**

All staff members who work within the Trust.

**e. whether it is mandatory:**

Not at present.

**5. What percentage of staff who assess patients requesting access to gender services have completed the training listed above around trans healthcare?**

Currently this is difficult to monitor due to this being a new process and the data is not readily captured.