

FOI 0516 2025 Response

Dear Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust,

This FOI request relates to people admitted to psychiatric inpatient wards who are parents.

By 'inpatient ward' we refer to: any ward that provides primarily psychiatric care, which has provision for overnight use, including locked and unlocked wards; including male, female, and mixed wards; including rehabilitation and forensic wards.

We do not need data relating to wards that are (or were during time period in question) exclusively delivering care to patients with dementia, or exclusively delivering care to older adults, or exclusively delivering care to children and adolescents (CAMHS).

Where possible please provide data on forensic wards separately from other types of ward.

By 'parent', we refer to any individual who has a child/children aged under 18 years (this can include step/foster/adopted/biological children). These parents need not necessarily have current caring responsibility (e.g. their child/children could be in temporary foster care).

We also include as a 'parent' any individual who has any other formal residential caring responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (e.g. where a grandparent has parental responsibility for a grandchild).

We are seeking data covering the period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2019 inclusive.

Please provide the following data, as far as is reasonably possible:

1. Admissions Data

a. How many individual admissions (for one night or more) were made to each psychiatric inpatient ward in the Trust. This question refers to all patient admissions, not just parents. If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

b. How many of the patients reported under 1.a. were parents (as defined above)?

If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

Please see the attached excel spreadsheet titled "response to question 1".

2. Parental Status Data Collection

a. What data are routinely collected on parental status when inpatients are admitted or during their care? For example, are any of the following recorded: parenthood status, parental responsibility, children's age, involvement of statutory services, where child currently resides? Is any other related information routinely recorded?

The Trust routinely collect:

- Current social circumstances
- Childcare responsibilities or contact with other children e.g. , siblings children from other relationships , (names ,dob, address) , where child currently resides.
- Any safeguarding concerns

3. Trust/ward policies and procedures

- a. Please provide copies of Trust policy documents which include reference to the needs of psychiatric inpatients who are parents and their families (e.g. family visit policies).
- b. Please provide copies of any internal guidelines/SOPs used by wards to manage child visits to wards.
- c. Please provide a copy of each inpatient ward induction/welcome pack for inpatients.
- d. Please provide a copy of any written information provided to carers of inpatients.
- e. Please provide a copy of information provided to the carers of children of inpatients while they are inpatients (e.g. foster carer, grandparent).
- f. Please provide a copy of any information provided to child(ren) of inpatients.

For items a-f, please state if no such materials exist.

Please see the zip folders attached for the requested information and note the following:

For Acute and Urgent Care inpatient services:

- The Trust do have a Children Visiting Mental Health Care Settings Policy however, the policy is not included within the response. This is because the policy is outdated and it is anticipated that the policy will undergo review and therefore intended for future publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- The Trust currently do not have a Carer's Policy nor a SOP. However, carer involvement is included in our operational policies and procedures relating to service users.
- We do have a carers strategy – please see attachment.
- On some wards visitors can visit patients in the bedrooms if patient cannot walk or in a High Dependency Unit bed. We do not let children visit patient's in their bedrooms, unless an MDT discussion is made/documented and staff are present to supervise the visit.
- The Trust do not have any documentation associated with questions 3e -3f.

For Steps 2 Recovery inpatient service

- Within the Steps to Recovery service (S2R), we do not have the requested documents. However, the Trust is working with the Experts by Experience Team to have a comprehensive form compiled for all the S2R units, which can be issued to carers of inpatients.
- At present there are no internal guidelines/SOP to manage child visits. If request's were made, the trust's Children visiting policy would be adhered to, booked in advanced, risk assessment completed and reviewed on the day of the planned visit. However, note that the Children Visiting Mental Health Care Settings Policy has not be included within the response. This is because the policy is outdated and it is anticipated that the policy will

undergo review and therefore intended for future publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- The Trust currently do not have a Carer's Policy nor a SOP. However, carer involvement is included in our operational policies and procedures relating to service users.
- We do have a carers strategy – please see attachment.
- The Trust do not have any documentation associated with questions 3d -3f (excluding Hertford House, there is a welcome pack to carers of inpatients).

Secure Care and Offenders Health inpatient service

- The Trust do have a Reaside Clinic Use of Visitors Room and Visitors to Secure Hospital Facilities Policy. However, the policies have not been included as they are outdated. It is anticipated that the policies will undergo review, therefore intended for future publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- The Trust do have a Children Visiting Mental Health Care Settings Policy however, the policy is not included within the response. This is because the policy is outdated and it is anticipated that the policy will undergo review and therefore intended for future publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- The Trust currently do not have a Carer's Policy nor a SOP. However, carer involvement is included in our operational policies and procedures relating to service users.
- We do have a carers strategy – please see attachment.
- The Trust do not have any documentation associated with questions 3d-3f.

The Barberrry Specialities services

- Deaf Services (Jasmine Ward,)within the Barberrry Specialities follow the guidelines and policies in accordance with adult acute mental health inpatient services.
- The Service would meet as an MDT to review any requests for children to visit family/carers while they are inpatients.
- Children and young people are not permitted access to Jasmine Ward, but plans can be put in place for children to visit in a room off the ward.
- The Trust do have a Children Visiting Mental Health Care Settings Policy however, the policy is not included within the response. This is because the policy is outdated and it is anticipated that the policy will undergo review and therefore intended for future

publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- Due to the nature of the Deaf Services (Jasmine Ward,)speciality service, there is no welcome pack for inpatients. However, easy-read information can be sourced at point of admission for each patient. This will be tailored around their individual capability, needs and understanding of their mental health and physical health needs. Information will be sourced from websites such as Signhealth, BID, RNID, British Deaf Association and other supporting charities.
- The Deaf do have individualised easy-read “All About Me Care Plan”.
- There are no generic information leaflets for carers and the ward would regularly offer carer’s support. There are a number of staff that have undertaken carer’s training/triangle of care. Furthermore, Birmingham Deaf Service is currently involved in a pioneering piece of work developing a digital media wall. The media wall will contain relevant information, guidance, contacts and carers information in a BSL format. There is ongoing development in the Deaf Community Team where there is a focus on Carers support/family support.
- The Trust do have a Perinatal Mental Health Service Operational Policy which includes a section around the specific arrangements for families/ carers visiting inpatients. However, this document has not been included as it is outdated and it is anticipated that the policy will undergo review, therefore intended for future publication. The Trust refers to exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- The Trust do not have any documentation associated with questions 3e -3f. However, the service do have/ carry out a Carer’s assessment plan to obtain a better understanding of the support they provide.

4. Child visits.

- a. During the reporting period, how many parents received at least one visit from their child/ren during their inpatient ward admission?
- b. During the reporting period, how many individual visits were made by children to inpatient psychiatric wards?

The Trust do not hold the requested information.

5. Family-friendly facilities

- a. Please provide a description of any family visit room(s) on each inpatient ward (include details of fixtures and fittings).
- b. For each family room, state whether it is used solely for the purpose of family visits.
- c. Please provide a photograph of each family room (a snapshot from a phone is fine).

Please see attachments .