

FOI 0217 2025 Response

Request

Freedom of Information Request

To: FOI Officer

Dear FOI Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting aggregate information regarding services provided or commissioned by your Trust in relation to peripheral neuropathic pain (PNP), with a specific focus on:

- Post-surgical neuropathic pain (PSNP)
- Cancer-related neuropathic pain (CRNP)
- Painful diabetic peripheral neuropathy (PDPN)

Please break down the information by individual service, clinic, and by hospital site.

1. Patient Numbers & Treatment Modalities (Last 12 Months)

For each hospital site or service, please provide:

The number of patients seen for each of the following conditions:

- PSNP
- CRNP (please split into surgically induced and chemotherapy-induced)
- PDPN
- Please also break this down by hospital department.

Treatment Modalities

For each hospital site or service, please indicate **Yes or No** as to whether the following treatment modalities are available for **PNP**. Where stated **yes** please provide patient numbers for the latest 12-month period.

- Gabapentin prescriptions
- Botulinum toxin (Botox) injections
- TENS (Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation)
- Acupuncture (including PENS – Percutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation)
- Theatre-based nerve stimulation procedures (e.g., spinal cord stimulators or other implanted/surgical neuromodulation devices)

If exact numbers are unavailable, proxy data is acceptable (e.g., the percentage of neuropathic pain patients receiving each treatment modality).

2. Service Provision

Does your Trust or provider offer specific or dedicated services for PSNP, CRNP, and/or PDPN?

- If yes, please list each relevant service or site (e.g., pain clinic, neurology clinic, diabetic foot clinic, community pain service) along with their addresses.

For each listed site or service, please indicate:

- The types of healthcare professionals routinely involved (e.g., pain specialists, neurologists, specialist nurses, physiotherapists, psychologists)
- The number of staff per role (headcount or FTE if available)

3. Referral Pathways & Service Specifications

Are there established care pathways, referral criteria, or service specifications for PSNP, CRNP, and/or PDPN?

- If yes, please supply relevant documents or summaries.
- If not, please clarify whether these conditions fall under broader chronic pain, MSK, diabetes, or oncology pathways.

4. Clinical Guidelines, Protocols, Strategic Plans

Has the Trust developed or contributed to any strategic plans, business cases, or service specifications for PSNP, CRNP, or PDPN?

- If so, please provide relevant documents, including any timelines and associated funding information.

Are there any specific clinical guidelines, care pathways, or treatment protocols in use? For example:

- NICE CG173
- NEUPSIG
- Local pathways for diabetes- or oncology-related neuropathy
- If yes, please provide copies or summaries of key components.

5. Funding & Budgets

What was the total expenditure on neuropathic pain services in the most recent full financial year?

- If no specific figure is available, please provide overall pain management funding and any known distribution (e.g., primary/community vs secondary care).
- Please indicate the type of funding, e.g. tariff or block contract

6. Planned or Recent Service Changes

Are there any recent, ongoing, or planned changes to:

- Commissioning arrangements
- Referral pathways
- Service structure
- Clinical treatment options for PSNP, CRNP, or PDPN?

If yes, please provide details, including the relevant sites, timelines, and the rationale for these changes.

7. Data Format and Guidance

Please provide all data in a machine-readable format (e.g., Excel or CSV).

- If any part of the request is unclear or may exceed appropriate cost/time limits, please contact me to discuss refinement, in accordance with Section 16 of the FOI Act.

Response

Please note that Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust explicitly provide mental health services and do not provide physical healthcare like an Acute Trust.

Your request for information is therefore not applicable to the Trust.