

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.23.3122
Date Received: 6th September 2023

Information Requested:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.

1. Please tell me the number of clinicians you have working at the Trust who specialise in tic disorders.

Within Children’s Specialist services, we have Consultant Community Paediatricians working at the Trust who specialise in tic disorders. Other clinicians are in Continuing Healthcare (CHC) for whom the diagnosis and treatment of tic disorder may be in their skill set.

If the child is identified to have significant co-morbidities (this is often the case with Tics/Tourette’s) then these children are been redirected to the Consultant Community Paediatrician or other clinicians.

The Trust is unable to provide the number of clinicians as the trust’s policy is not to provide patient or staff numbers, where the response is less than or equal to five (≤5) as it would potentially allow identification of the individual patient/staff and would therefore be personal data.

The trust considers that release of that information would breach GDPR/DPA18 principles on the grounds that it would not be fair in all the circumstances. This information is therefore exempt under section 40 of the FOI Act 2000.

- The clinicians must have specialised practice in the three tic disorders set out in the DSM-5-TR: Tourette’s syndrome, persistent motor or vocal tics and provisional tic disorder.

Our Consultant Community Paediatricians do have specialist practice in the three parameters under the DSM-5 TR

- Tics: Sudden, rapid, recurrent, non-rhythmic motor movements or vocalisations
- Vocalisations can be simple sounds (e.g. sniffing, throat clearing or coughing), or complex vocalisations (e.g. coprolalia); also includes speech blocking or stuttering-like symptoms

<i>Provisional tic disorder</i>	<i>Persistent (chronic) motor or vocal tic disorder</i>	<i>Tourette’s disorder</i>
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2. Please include all specialists regardless of the sub-speciality in which they practice. Due to an increasingly diagnosed condition and levels of confirmed diagnoses have increased since the pandemic. The Integrated Care Board (ICB) commissioned our

Children's Specialist service to deliver TICs/Tourette's by our Consultant Community Paediatricians team who will see and confirm a suspected diagnosis of TICs/Tourette's. To ensure that the correct children are being seen and assessed by Consultant Community Paediatrician.

Working along with clinicians our Behaviour Specialist Clinical Lead will support the families/Children and Young People (CYP) with Psychoeducation and strategies and in education setting.

Our Consultant Community Paediatricians are specialist in neurodevelopmental disorders and Neurodisability assessment for CYP

3. Please tell me the clinician(s) start date of employment at the Trust.
March 2022
4. If there are currently no specialists working at the Trust, please tell me how many you have had working at the Trust in the past during the following years: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.
N/A – The service was under acute hospital management before March 2022.

Applied Exemption:

Section 40 (Personal information):

- (1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.
- (2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—
 - (a) it constitutes personal data which do not fall within subsection (1), and
 - (b) either the first or the second condition below is satisfied.
- (3) The first condition is—
 - (a) in a case where the information falls within any of paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of “data” in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene—
 - (i) any of the data protection principles, or
 - (ii) section 10 of that Act (right to prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress), and
 - (b) in any other case, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene any of the data protection principles if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (which relate to manual data held by public authorities) were disregarded.
- (4) The second condition is that by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 2018 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(c) of that Act (data subject's right of access to personal data).
- (5) The duty to confirm or deny—

- (a) does not arise in relation to information which is (or if it were held by the public authority would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1), and
 - (b) does not arise in relation to other information if or to the extent that either—
 - (i) the giving to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the data protection principles or section 10 of the Data Protection Act 2018 or would do so if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of that Act were disregarded, or
 - (ii) by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 2018 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(a) of that Act (data subject's right to be informed whether personal data being processed).
 - (6) In determining for the purposes of this section whether anything done before 24th October 2007 would contravene any of the data protection principles, the exemptions in Part III of Schedule 8 to the Data Protection Act 2018 shall be disregarded.
 - (7) In this section— “the data protection principles” means the principles set out in Part I of Schedule 1 to the Data Protection Act 2018, as read subject to Part II of that Schedule and section 27(1) of that Act;
 - “data subject” has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act;
 - “personal data” has the same meaning as in section 1(1) of that Act.
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Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk>