

FOI 2887

14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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### **Question:**

**I would like to get some information please. I would like to know how many patients who are assessed at CAHGT by the Mental Health Assessment Team (based out of Daisy Hill Hospital) get admitted to Bluestone Ward for further care and what is the patient criteria for admission to Bluestone Ward.**

### **Response:**

Part1: Between 01 April 2024 to 31 Jan 2025 a total of 40 patients were assessed by the Integrated Liaison Service (ILS) and admitted to Bluestone.

Additional note: this response assumes the ILS team correlates with your reference to the CAHGT.

Part 2: Admission criteria.

Admission to Bluestone is determined following triage/assessment by the Home Treatment Crisis Response Team (HTCR)/Mental Health Liaison service or Application for Assessment made under the Mental Health Order (NI) 1986. Admission to hospital only takes place when it is deemed clinically appropriate following assessment by the Trust's Mental Health Gate Keeping Services or Approved Social Work Services (in the case of patients admitted for assessment under the Mental Health (NI) Order 1986).

Admission will only proceed when it is determined that there is no immediate, and appropriate, safe alternative to managing the patient within community resources available at the time.

Criteria examples (not exhaustive)

- Severe Depression: Patients experiencing severe depression with suicidal ideation or behaviour requiring intensive monitoring and treatment.
- Acute Psychosis: Patients with acute psychotic episodes, including hallucinations and delusions, need specialised psychiatric care.
- Bipolar Disorder: Patients with severe manic or depressive episodes that cannot be managed in an outpatient setting.
- Severe Anxiety Disorders: Patients with debilitating anxiety disorders, such as panic disorder or severe generalised anxiety disorder, require intensive intervention.

- **Complex Mental Health Conditions:** Patients with complex mental health conditions that involve multiple psychiatric diagnoses and require coordinated care from various specialists.

**Question:**

**I would also like to know how many patients who are assessed by the Mental Health Assessment Team at Daisy Hill Hospital and are not offered any immediate treatment end up taking their lives?**

**Response:**

This information is not centrally recorded and to obtain it would take over 18 hours. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

Unfortunately we are unable to provide the information you have requested as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. It has been estimated that it would take more than 18 hours to locate and retrieve the requested information. To obtain this information would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

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