

FOI 2948

18th March 2025**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

1. In the following calendar years, how many referrals of any form were made to the Trust for Fast-Track Continuing Healthcare?

1. 2022
2. 2023
3. 2024

Response:

Within Northern Ireland we do not have a “Fast-Track” Continuing Healthcare process, so there were no such referrals received.

2. How many of the referrals in question 1 were rejected as inappropriate by the Trust? Please provide figures for the following calendar years:

1. 2022
2. 2023
3. 2024

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not “Fast-Track” referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

3. Please explain, in general terms, the main reasons for which referrals were deemed inappropriate.

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not “Fast-Track” referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

4. How many of the referrals in question 1 were withdrawn/closed by a) The referrer, or b) The patient/their family. Please provide figures for the following calendar years:

1. 2022
2. 2023
3. 2024

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not “Fast-Track” referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

5. How many of the referrals in question 1 were withdrawn/closed as a result of the patient dying before any funding was put in place? Please provide figures for the following calendar years:

- 1. 2022**
- 2. 2023**
- 3. 2024**

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not "Fast-Track" referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

6. In the following calendar years, how many referrals were accepted for Fast-Track Continuing Healthcare?

- 1. 2022**
- 2. 2023**
- 3. 2024**

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not "Fast-Track" referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

7. In the following calendar years, what was the average timeframe - for Fast-Track CHC referrals that were accepted - between receipt of the completed Fast Track Pathway Tool and the care package being commissioned. Please provide the answer in hours where possible, or otherwise in days.

- 1. 2022**
- 2. 2023**
- 3. 2024**

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not "Fast-Track" referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

If data for calendar years cannot be provided, please instead give the average timeframe for the most relevant period for which data can be compiled (for example, December 2022, December 2023, and December 2024).

8. In the following calendar years, what was the average timeframe - for Fast-Track CHC referrals that were accepted - between receipt of the completed Fast Track Pathway Tool and the funding for the care package being put in place. Please provide the answer days.

- 1. 2022**
- 2. 2023**
- 3. 2024**

Response:

See response to Question 1 above. As there are not “Fast-Track” referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to this question is Nil.

If data for calendar years cannot be provided, please instead give the average timeframe for the most relevant period for which data can be compiled (for example, December 2022, December 2023, and December 2024).

9. Please can you explain the decision-making process for Fast-Track Continuing Healthcare referrals, giving details of all criteria involved in the process between receiving the referral and commissioning support?

As part of this, please could you explain:

- 1. The criteria you use for who can make a Fast-Track CHC referral (for example, are non-NHS medical professionals, care home nurses and/or GPs able to do this?)**
- 2. Whether Fast-Track Continuing Healthcare referrals made by an appropriate clinician are subject to further checks by professionals working for, or on behalf of, the Trust before being granted? Please explain this process if so.**
- 3. Whether a patient referred by an appropriate clinician is required to meet further criteria, such as having a primary health need, in order to qualify for Fast-Track support?**

Response:

For the three parts of question 9 above, please see response to Question 1 above. As there are no “Fast-Track” referrals in Northern Ireland, the answer to all three aspects of this question is Nil.

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