

FOI 3362

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025

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

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**For each of the financial years below, please outline the number of occasions where patients from your Trust experienced delays in accessing a bed in a mental health facility, where the individual had been assessed by a GP and/or Approved Social Worker as requiring detention for assessment under the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and where the delay met the Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) definition of a protracted wait (6 hours or more):**

- **2019/20 - no data available**
- **2020/21 – no data available**
- **2021/22 – no data available**
- **2022/23 - no data available**
- **2023/24 - no data available**
- **2024/25 - no data available**

**Of the above number of protracted waits (6 hours or more), please provide, for each financial year listed, the number of cases where there was a handover interface either to or from the Regional Emergency Social Work Service (RESWS), requiring involvement from RESWS staff.**

- **No data available**

### **Response:**

There is no data readily available to respond to this FOI request.

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual patient records. As such we cannot provide this information 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. To obtain this information from a number of individual patient records would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

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.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.

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