

FOI 2541

7th August 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Request:

Please provide the following data, broken down on an annual basis, for the years 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24.

- **Readmission rates to mental health inpatient units**
- **Within 30 days of discharge**
- **Within 365 days of discharge**
- **Please break this data down by**
- **Health and Social Care Trust**
- **hospital setting**
- **legal status on admission i.e. voluntary or detained.**
- **gender**
- **age bracket**
- **other demographic information available**

Response:

On review of the information you have requested we believe the figures we hold to be inaccurate and would have concerns that releasing this information into the public domain would be misleading. In order to carry out a validation exercise would require a manual trawl of individual service user records. As such we cannot provide this 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. In order to obtain this information from a number of service user 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.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net