

Date: Friday, 06th November 2020
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 4509

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4509

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 26th October 2020.

Your request was as follows:

1. What is the current caseload/number of individuals currently receiving support for Speech and Language provided by your Trust?

1a. Can this be broken down into age ranges? (e.g: Early Years, Primary School Age, Secondary Age, Post 16 etc or your preferred method to measure this in?)

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust only treat patients that are aged 16 or over, therefore all the below figures are for Post 16:

Acute - 30

Post Acute Rehab - 10

Hyperacute - I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

Section 40 (2) - Third Party Data

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), due to the minimal number of patients identified, and in answering your query may lead to the undue stress of families and patients as this information may still lead to patients being identified. Therefore this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

2. What has been the annual caseload/number of individuals receiving support for Speech and Language provided by your Trust for each of the last 5 years from 2015-2020? Can this be broken down into the age ranges stated above?

All post 16:

2015 - 286 July-Dec. Data not available pre July.

2016 - 582

2017 - 623

2018 - 647

2019 - 626

2020 - 502 to end of October 2020.

3. What is the current average waiting time to access support for Speech and Language provided by your Trust, following first referral?

Next working day for urgent referrals and 3 working days for non urgent referrals.

4. How many individuals are currently waiting to access support for Speech and Language provided by your Trust, following first referral? Can this be broken down into age ranges?

I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

Section 40 (2) - Third Party Data

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), due to the minimal number of patients identified, and in answering your query may lead to the undue stress of families and patients as this information may still lead to patients being identified. Therefore this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

5. How many individuals are currently employed to work in the Speech and Language Therapy Service by the your Trust? How many of these roles are Speech and Language Therapists?

10 members of staff. 9 are qualified Speech and Language Therapists.

6. How much has your Trust annually on providing speech and language services, in each of the last 2 years from 2018-2020?

During 2018/19 the Trust spent £295,618 on providing speech and language services and during 2019/20 spent £352,796 on providing speech and language services.

7. What is the overall annual spend for all services provided by your Trust, in each of the last 2 years from 2018-2020. Can this be broken down into service area?

Total spent on staffing of speech and language services*;

Year Expenditure

2018/19 £295,618

2019/20 £352,796

*These figure cannot be split down any further into service areas

8. How much has your Trust received in funding from Central Government for speech and language services, in each of the last 2 years from 2018-2020?

Here at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust we do not receive funding directly from central Government for speech and language services we get paid for activity in the trust via the CCGs and Specialist commissioning through PBR (payment by results).

9. How much has your Trust received in annual funding from Central Government for all services, in each of the last 2 years from 2018-2020. Can this be broken down into service area?

As above.

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4509 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information