

Our Ref: LW/Imw/FOI.67.21  
Date: 21 April 2021

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Vanessa Fillis  
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Dear Vanessa

Tel 01782 275030

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 7 April 2021. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

### ***Requested information:***

I would like to request, under the freedom of information act, the following information for adult mental health services in North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust.

1. The number of nurses or support workers who support patients regarding their housing while they are inpatient in a mental health unit. These could be housing officers, housing support workers, special housing nurses, or similar professions that are specialised in housing support.  
**All Inpatient Rehab staff support patients with their housing needs but none are currently specialists in housing support.**

**Acute Inpatients - 3 x Assistant Practitioners who work as discharge co-ordinators**

**Older Persons - 2 x Assistant Practitioners**

**2 Social Workers in temporary positions**

2. The protocol for discharging homeless patients or patients who face homelessness after their discharge. Please provide a document with the discharge policy or, if there is no document, please state what the protocol is.

### **1.17 Inpatient Admission, Transfer and Discharge Policy.**

**We have close links with the local homelessness team and refer for homeless interviews upon discharge. We pro-actively refer to housing associations if a patient is admitted without accommodation or is in the process of being evicted to avoid discharge to homeless interview.**

**Older persons would source accommodation prior to discharge.**

3. The number of nurses or support workers who support mental health patients regarding their housing while they are in the community. These could be housing officers, housing support workers, special housing nurses, or similar professions that are specialised in housing support.

**The Trust have recently opened a rehab supported accommodation unit - Hilda Johnson House - this unit is also the base for the new Community Rehab Team. The role of this unit and team is to support service users on their recovery pathway with a goal of securing long term accommodation in the community. At present we have no specialist housing staff but have recognised this as future development role as part of the Community Transformation Fund.**

**Presently the team who would support with housing across our Rehab services consists of:**

**2 x Social Workers  
2 x WTE Support Time Recovery Workers  
3 x Health Care Support Workers  
3 x Senior Nurses  
4 x Mental Health Practitioners  
1 x Senior Occupational Therapist post  
1 x Occupational Therapy Technician post**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. 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: Peter Axon, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. 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 Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



**Laurie Wrench**  
**Associate Director of Governance**



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Chief Executive: Peter Axon  
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