



South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Freedom of Information

Springfield University Hospital
Trust Headquarters, Building 15
61 Glenburnie Road
London SW17 7DJ

Direct line: 0203 513 6110

Email: FOI-requests@swlstg.nhs.uk

Website: www.swlstg.nhs.uk

Date: April 20, 2021

Ref: 1084-FOI

Dear Vanessa,

Freedom of Information Request- Housing Support

Thank you for your enquiry. I am writing in response to your recent freedom of information request. For ease of reference, your request is set out below in bold and our response is in italics under each component of your request.

Please could I have details on the following points:-

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.

We have the discharge co-ordination team who work with people who have barriers to discharge - this can include homelessness and referral to the Homeless persons unit if this is appropriate. They are a team of 7 staff who work across the Adult Acute Inpatient Services and then there is also one person in older adults.

For Cognition and Mental Health in Ageing and Neurodevelopmental Services there is one Discharge Coordinator across both Jasmines and Crocus Ward who covers all Boroughs

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.

We are currently drafting a discharge and choice policy in partnership with local authority, CCG and service users which has not been ratified but outlines the process for identifying barriers to discharge along with the process for referral to appropriate housing and support options.

In addition to the above, the Cognition and Mental Health in Ageing and Neurodevelopmental Services would also refer patients to the relevant Local Authority for an assessment under the Care Act.

Acting Chief Executive, Vanessa Ford

Chair, Ann Beasley



Respectful



Open



Collaborative



Compassionate



Consistent

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.

Cognition and Mental Health in Ageing and Neurodevelopmental Services Community Mental Health Teams don't have staff specialised in housing support as described above.

I trust that this response satisfies your request. However if you are not satisfied and need to correspond further regarding this request, you may appeal by setting out your concerns in writing for the attention of myself and the Information Governance Manager. Please ensure that the reference number that appears in the subject line above is quoted to make it easier for the team to deal with further correspondence.

In the event that you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of any appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), although they will expect you to exhaust the Trust internal complaints policy before they will consider a case. For further details see www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Pp. *Sola Adefemiwa*

Sharon Spain
Director of Nursing and Governance

Acting Chief Executive, Vanessa Ford

Chair, Ann Beasley



Respectful



Open



Collaborative



Compassionate



Consistent