

FOI3310 – Concerning housing support in Mental Health services.

We can confirm that Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust can advise as follows in response to your Freedom of Information Request:

I would like to request, under the freedom of information act, the following information for adult mental health services in Southern Health NHS Foundation 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.

We do not have specialist workers within mental health units. Housing support is seen as a generic role and needs are met by the care coordination or other specialist mental health staff.

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.

Prior to discharge patients who are either homeless or facing homelessness will be supported to engage with specialist housing providers, to secure appropriate accommodation. Where the individual refuses such support/accommodation or If not available at the point of discharge, an alternative, such as bed and breakfast is provided.

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.

We do not have specialist support roles within the community. We do however, employ an associate director of housing who works at divisional level to resolve systemic issues across the organisation.

