

A&E Attendance Mental Health & Drug/Alcohol

Reference Number: RDF1728-23

Date of Response: 14/08/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

Request for information below for years 2018 – 2022.

1. The number of patients who presented to Accident & Emergency (A&E) with dual diagnosis- suicidal ideation and alcohol/ drug use

a. Number of the above patients who received a mental health assessment

Answer: Please see table below; however, the Trust are unable to provide Royal Devon's Northern Services data for the date range 01/01/2018 – 08/07/22 or Eastern Services prior to 10/10/2020 as the information is not held in a manner that can be easily reported on. The Trust are not able to provide data for dual diagnosis as the data is pulled using a free text field so we will not be able to filter down specifically to this level of detail.

To provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources, including legacy systems and individual records. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1. The number of patients who presented to Accident & Emergency (A&E) with dual diagnosis - suicidal ideation and alcohol/ drug use	*	*	*187 - Eastern only from 10/10/2020	*990 - Eastern only	**958 - Eastern full year, Northern from 09/07/2022
1a. Number of the above patients who received a mental health assessment	*	*	*74 - Eastern only from 10/10/2020	*457 - Eastern only	**497 - Eastern full year, Northern from 09/07/2022

* This information represents Royal Devon's Eastern Services from 10/10/2020.

** This information represents Royal Devon's Eastern Services from 10/10/2020 and Royal Devon's Northern Services from 09/07/2022.

2. Number of patients presenting to A&E with only mental health issues (no substance abuse)

a. The number of patients with mental health issues (no substance abuse) who received a mental health assessment

Answer: Please see table below; however, the Trust are unable to provide Royal Devon's Northern Services data for the date range 01/01/2018 – 08/07/22 as the information is not held in a manner that can be easily reported on. The Trust are not able to provide data for dual diagnosis as the data is pulled using a free text field so we will not be able to filter down specifically to this level of detail.

To provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources, including legacy systems and individual records. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2. Number of patients presenting to A&E with only mental health issues (no substance abuse)	*2,100 Eastern Only	*2,176 Eastern only	*1,574 Eastern Only	*1,575 Eastern Only	**2,037 Eastern full year, Northern from 09/07/2022
2A. The number of patients with mental health issues (no substance abuse) who received a mental health assessment	*2,085 - Eastern Only	*2,160 - Eastern only	*1,546 - Eastern only	*1,504 - Eastern only	**1,890 - Eastern full year, Northern from 09/07/2022

* This information represents Royal Devon's Eastern Services from 10/10/2020.

** This information represents Royal Devon's Eastern Services from 10/10/2020 and Royal Devon's Northern Services from 09/07/2022.

3. *The number of patients recorded in A&E because of substance abuse*

Answer: Please see table below.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3. The number of patients recorded in A&E because of substance abuse	2025	1875	2020	3136	3098

4. *The number of alcohol detox's completed per year*

Answer: The Trust does not hold this information.

5. *The number of patients admitted to A&E following suicide attempt*

a. *The number of patients above who were admitted to a ward*

Answer: Please see table below.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
5. The number of patients admitted to A&E following suicide attempt	914	910	659	630	663
5a. The number of patients above who were admitted to a ward	171	178	120	51	37

6. *Information showing the same patient has been admitted to A&E with mental health conditions over 5 times in a six month period.*

Answer: The Trust has considered your request; however, the information is not held in an easily reportable manner and the work required in order to produce a count for the whole date range would exceed the 18+ hr limit, requiring the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources and systems including legacy systems. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

a. *Any data showing the same patient admitted with substance abuse over 5 times in a six month period, if available showing all repeated admissions per month 2019-2022.*

Answer: Please see response to question 6; in order to produce a count for the whole date range would exceed the 18+ hr limit and would exceed

the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.