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Request for Information Reference: 12.22.56

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Email only

10th January 2023

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 23rd December 2022 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Long Covid Assessment Service and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. When did your post COVID (long COVID) assessment service become operational?

December 2020

2. A copy of the operational policy for your post COVID (long COVID) assessment service

Please see Attachment 1 – Post Covid Service Pathway and Attachment 2 – Referral Form.

3. The titles of the rows and columns of your central database/ spreadsheet on the referrals received, patients seen and outcomes of assessments

The central database used to record information is the SystmOne patient record. Reports can be run to provide data on referrals received and patients seen. Data is currently being collected in terms of patient outcomes.

4. What information do you hold on the occupations of people referred with post COVID (long COVID) syndrome?

This information is obtained and recorded as part of the Long Covid Symptom Questionnaire which is completed by patients as well as during the initial assessment appointment with a clinician.

5. Do you record how many of the people referred are current or former NHS workers?

This information is obtained and recorded as part of the Long Covid Symptom Questionnaire which is completed by patients as well as during the initial assessment appointment with a clinician.

6. What data do you submit to NHS England and or other central bodies about the work of your service and the characteristics of the patients who you treat?

The Trust submit fortnightly SITREP data to NHS England detailing number of referrals received, number of patients who have had an initial assessment during the reporting period and time from referral to initial assessment as well as ethnic group, sex and age.

7. To where are patients referred if assessment concludes that they need rehabilitation for post COVID (long COVID) syndrome?

The Trust's Post Covid service has adopted a multi-disciplinary approach and if required patients can be offered occupational therapy, physiotherapy, cognitive behavioural therapy, psychology support, psychiatry support, as well as having links with the Wellbeing for Life and Covid Resilience Teams. The service also provides virtual or face to face group intervention sessions which are delivered by the above clinicians.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.



County Durham
and Darlington
NHS Foundation Trust

Yours sincerely
Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator