

FOI 046 2024 Request

Dear Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust,

Under The Freedom of Information Act 2000, could you kindly answer the following questions:

1. I wish to know how much your trust has spent on specialist bariatric equipment for obese/bariatric patients (patients over 160kg) during the last three financial years?
2. Please give a breakdown of the type of equipment used by the trust and the amounts spent, split between Rental expenditure and Purchased Equipment?
 - 2.1. If equipment used is on a Rental basis, please specify if this was under a contract basis or ad hoc?
 - 2.2. When is the contract due for renewal?
 - 2.3. If known, who is the contract with?
 - 2.4. If under a contract, please supply the means of contract award, i.e framework or direct award.
3. How many Bariatric beds does the Trust own?

Response

The Trust is unable to provide a response to your query.

This is because we do not readily capture the requested information and obtaining this data will require exhaustive and manual measures that exceed the threshold of carrying out this task.

The Trust therefore rely on exemption Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request.

Please note the following:

- Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust explicitly provide mental health services and do not provide physical healthcare like an Acute Trust.
- The Bariatric Policy has been amended to only include patients who can mobilise and therefore reduces the need for wheelchairs, wide doorways, lifts, and hoists.
- The Trust is not distinguishing bariatric admissions from any other mental health need for admission. The policy acknowledges the need for more robust equipment, and equipment will be arranged by each ward on a hire basis.