

Our Ref: NG/RM/26075
Date: 10th April 2026

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Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 12th March 2026. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please provide data covering the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

1. Clinically Ready for Discharge (CRFD)
 - The number of people who were recorded as clinically fit for discharge (also referred to as clinically ready for discharge or medically optimised) during this period across your acute mental health inpatient services. **168 individuals were recorded as CRFD between Apr-25 and Feb-26.**
2. Barriers to Discharge

For the individuals identified above, please provide a breakdown of the primary reasons for delayed discharge, for example:

 - Housing or accommodation issues
 - Need for complex nursing care
 - Awaiting social care package
 - Lack of suitable community mental health provision
 - Other (please specify categories used internally).

If possible, please provide this as a count per category.

Reasons for Delayed Discharge	Number
Awaiting availability of placement in care home with nursing	39
Awaiting availability of placement in care home without nursing	55
Awaiting commencement of care package in usual or temporary place of residence	28
Awaiting further community or mental health NHS Services not delivered in an acute setting	1
Awaiting outcome of legal proceedings under relevant Mental Health legislation	1
Awaiting provision of community equipment and/or adaptations to own home	3

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo

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Awaiting public funding or decision from funding panel	4
Housing - Awaiting supported accommodation	9
No social care support including social care funded placement	12
Patient or Family choice	5
Reason not known	11
Total	168

3. Acute Mental Health Out of Area Placements (OAPs)

- The number of people placed in acute mental health out of area placements during the period. **210 individuals were recorded as having inappropriate out of area placements between Apr-2025 and Feb-2026.**

4. Mental Health Rehabilitation Out of Area Placements (Level 1 and Level 2)

- The number of people placed in Level 1 or Level 2 out of area mental health rehabilitation placements during the period. **2 individuals were placed in out of area mental health rehabilitation services between Apr-2025 and Feb-2026.**

5. Personality Disorder Out of Area Placements

- The number of people placed in out of area placements for personality disorder services during the period. **N/A**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance