

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

### Reference

22-23103

### Date sent

05/08/2022

### Subject

GIDS Referrals 2017-2022 & Suicide Data

### Details of enquiry

I request the following information about referrals and waiting times at your gender identity clinics. Please could I request the following information separately about both your clinics (for adults and patients below 18).

1. How many referrals did you receive each year in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022?
2. What was the average wait time between referral and first appointment in each year?
3. How many (if any) referred patients died before their first appointment in each year?
  - a. If possible, please specify their ages – if not possible, please specify a bracket (eg. 18-25?)
  - b. If possible, please specify if a death was by suicide.

### Response sent

1. How many referrals did you receive each year in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022?  
This Data is publicly available on our website at <https://gids.nhs.uk/about-us/number-of-referrals/>.

The Referral Data for the GIC is shown in the table below.

FINANCIAL YEAR	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2017-18	178	218	244	258	247	251	283	288	244	282	272	274
2018-19	232	359	326	338	280	323	303	307	213	367	281	298
2019-20	328	278	251	323	287	296	312	295	213	267	303	253
2020-21	116	121	182	288	227	265	223	281	271	354	260	401
2021-22	316	339	439	334	272	297	320	458	273	294	319	360

2. What was the average wait time between referral and first appointment in each year?

FINANCIAL YEAR	GIC in weeks	GIDS in weeks
2017-18	52	31
2018-19	54	57
2019-20	69	72
2020-21	92	89
2021-22	116	108

3. How many (if any) referred patients died before their first appointment in each year?

We do not hold exact numbers for deaths which you requested, as we may not hold complete data. The Trust is reliant on others to provide information about deaths, as there is no requirement to notify the Trust, or for the Trust to investigate when an individual withdraws from the waiting list, or when their clinician withdraws their referral to the Trust

The Trust has considered the detailed nature of the death data requested, covering deaths for those on waiting lists at our gender clinics and it publishes limited information on death data on its website, as available, which may be reached via the following the links below.

Summaries of serious incidents of this nature can be found in our quarterly board reports, which can be found on this page: <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/board-of-directors/meetings/> For example on page 37 of the board papers from January 2022: [https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/documents/2407/Board\\_papers\\_-\\_January\\_2022.pdf](https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/documents/2407/Board_papers_-_January_2022.pdf)

Further mortality reviews (which protect patients from identification) will be published in the same location once the data is validated. This data will be presented differently to prevent the possibility of identification of individuals:

- The Trust considers that further disclosure, when combined with other information that is or may become available in the public domain, could lead of identification of individuals and cause distress to family, friends and the wider community.
- Where a coroner's inquest is held, linked to a Prevention of future deaths report (Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths), the name of the deceased is published by the coroner and placed into the public domain.
- The Trust follows updated guidance on the release of suicide and deaths data, and now adheres closely to the Common Law Duty of Confidence and the 100-year rule, following guidance from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) on disclosure controls to protect confidentiality within death statistics. This means, going forward, that the Trust will not, in future, break down data around mortality reviews by individual service.

- a. If possible, please specify their ages – if not possible, please specify a bracket (eg. 18-25?)  
Please see our answer to Q3 above
- b. If possible, please specify if a death was by suicide.  
Please see our answer to Q3 above