

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

17-18120

Date sent

3/8/2017

Subject

Debt Collection from Overseas Patients

Details of enquiry

We would like to know the following information about Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust. Please answer question 1, and then answer question 2 and/or 3, depending on which of these refer to the Trust's specific financial arrangement.

1. Since 1 January 2016, which debt collection agency/agencies has the Trust used to recover costs from chargeable overseas NHS patients?
2. If the Trust contracted an agency/agencies to recover debts from chargeable overseas patients, please provide the following details about this financial arrangement in the period from 1 January 2016 until the present:
 - i. What was the duration and value of this contract (including all extra fees, such as but not limited to commission fees and “no win, no fee” fees)?
 - ii. What was the total value of all debts recovered, and the total value of chargeable overseas patients' debts recovered?
 - iii. What was the value of chargeable overseas patients' debts that were passed along to the agency/agencies but remain unrecovered?
3. If the Trust has sold chargeable overseas patients' debts onto an agency/agencies, please provide the following details about this financial arrangement in the period from 1 January 2016 until the present:
 - i. What was the number and value of chargeable overseas patients' debts that were sold on?
 - ii. At what rate were these debts sold on, as compared to their original value (please state a range if different debts were sold at different rates)?

Thank you very much for providing this information

Response Sent

Your request for information, as detailed below, has been considered in line with the requirements of the FOI Act 2000, and the information requested is considered to be not applicable to this Trust.

The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist mental health Trust which provides outpatient psychotherapy services only. Assessment and treatment of patients is by accepted referral and prior appointment only, and all our patients are entitled to free NHS care. Your enquiry concerning debt recovery from overseas patients is not applicable to this Trust because we have no chargeable overseas patients.