

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 11th July 2025

FOI Ref No 29529

Requested Information:

Please provide data for the period Jan 2025 to June 2025 (last six months), broken down by calendar month where applicable.

The following request:

1. Emergency Department Bed delays for Adult Mental Health Patients (18-65yrs)

- The number of patients per month within the ED who have been deemed medically fit but awaiting a mental health bed for
 - **Greater than 24hrs**
 - **Greater than 48hrs**
 - **Greater than 72hrs**

2. Acute Ward bed delays for Adult Mental Health patients (18-65yrs)

- The number of patients within Medical/ Surgical/ Obstetric Wards (including those who have been bedded within temporary areas such as daycare, SDEC etc) who have been deemed medically fit but are awaiting a mental health bed for
 - Greater than 24hrs
 - Greater than 48hrs
 - Greater than 72hrs
 - Over 1 week
 - Over 1 month

3. Emergency Department Bed delays for Older Persons Mental Health Patients (65yrs+)

- The number of patients within the ED who have been deemed medically fit but awaiting a mental health bed for
 - Greater than 24hrs
 - Greater than 48hrs
 - Greater than 72hrs

4. Acute Ward bed delays for Older Persons Mental Health patients (65yrs+)

- The number of patients within Medical/ Surgical/ Older Persons Wards (including those who have been bedded within temporary areas such as daycare,

SDEC etc) who have been deemed medically fit but are awaiting a mental health bed for

- Greater than 24hrs
- Greater than 48hrs
- Greater than 72hrs
- Over 1 week
- Over 1 month

5. Amount of enhanced 1:1 or 2:1 supervision

Please provide the **number of patients / hours per month who required 1:1 / 2:1 supervision** where this has not been provided by the local Mental Health trust (ie: the cost has been incurred by your Trust)

6. No of beds Commissioned by your Trust for Mental Health patients

Number of patients in the six month period in which your Trust has commissioned a private bed for a mental health patient due to delays in accessing a Mental Health Bed

7. Capital Investment.

Do you have any plans to create a Mental Health Emergency Department (MHED) within your Trust (as outlined within the recent NHS 10 year plan Plan- extract below)

“We will increase capacity for urgent mental health care by developing dedicated mental health emergency departments (MHEDs), ensuring patients get fast, same-day access to specialist support in an appropriate setting.

Over the course of the first half of this Plan, we will invest up to £120 million to bring the number of MHEDs to around 85, meaning there will be one co-located (or very close to) 50% of existing type 1 A&E units”

Response:

January 2025 – June 2025

- Inpatient reason for discharge delay codes as per national discharges sit rep specification: [NHS England >> Acute Discharge Situation Report: Technical Specification](#)

1. The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust (RCHT) does not hold information to the level of detail ‘awaiting mental health bed’ as the Trust does not have mental health beds and if a patient was awaiting a bed in another hospital, it would not be detailed down to a mental health bed.
2. There were <5 patients waiting over 24 hours to be discharged with the reason for discharge delay code ‘E6 mental health admitted patient care not available yet’ within this time period. There were no medically optimised

patients waiting over 48 hours to be discharge with the reason for discharge delay code 'E6 mental health admitted patient care not available yet' within this time period.

3. RCHT does not hold information to the level of detail 'awaiting mental health bed' as the trust does not have mental health beds and if a patient was awaiting a bed in another hospital, it would not be detailed down to a mental health bed.
4. There were no medically optimised patients over 65 years old waiting over 24 hours to be discharged with the reason for discharge delay code 'E6 mental health admitted patient care not available yet' within this time period.
5. Please see appendix one
6. The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust does not commission any mental health beds. The answer is therefore 0.
7. At present RCHT has no plans to create a Mental Health Emergency Department however we continue to work with health system partners, particularly Cornwall Foundation Trust (CFT), to improve timely access to appropriate emergency mental health care for any patients arriving at Royal Cornwall Hospitals Emergency department via the liaison psychiatry service. The preferred pathway in Cornwall is for these patients to have direct access to emergency mental health services within CFT who are the mental health care provider in Cornwall.

Attachment(s):

Appendix One – FOI Ref 29529 Question 5 Response

Date Response sent: 12th August 2025