

Date: 12/10/2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013641 – Physiotherapy

Please fill in the table at the bottom of the request.

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) wishes to make a series of separate requests under the Freedom of Information Act. For convenience, we are including them in one request. They are as follows:

VACANCIES

Request 1

- a) Please confirm how many whole time equivalent physiotherapist and physiotherapy support worker vacancies were held in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust as at 31 March 2017.
- b) Please confirm how many of the posts in Request 1a had been vacant for 3 months or more as at 31 March 2017.

POSTS

Request 2:

Please confirm how many whole time equivalent (WTE) physiotherapists and physiotherapy support workers were employed by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust on the 31 March 2017. (This should include any generic assistant or technical instructor posts that support physiotherapy service provision).

PATIENT DEMAND

Request 3:

Please confirm the number of new referrals (including patient self-referral) to physiotherapy services in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, in the following financial years:

- 1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2017
- 1 April 2015 to end of 31 March 2016
- 1 April 2014 to end of 31 March 2015

SPENDING

Request 4:

Please confirm how much was spent on physiotherapy agency/locum/temp staff in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, in the following financial years:

- 1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2017
- 1 April 2015 to end of 31 March 2016
- 1 April 2014 to end of 31 March 2015

PRACTICE BASED LEARNING

Request 5:

Please identify the clinical areas within your physiotherapy services that provide placements for physiotherapy undergraduates in the last financial year (1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2017).

MUSCULOSKELETAL (MSK) PATHWAY

Request 6:

- a) Please confirm/deny whether The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust provides MSK services that include first contact physiotherapists in General Practice
- b) Please confirm/deny whether patients can self-refer to physiotherapy services within the MSK services provided by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

Notes on terms used in Request 6

First contact physiotherapists in General Practice

- When an individual contacts their GP they can be offered a consultation with the *First contact physiotherapist* instead of seeing the GP and without needing to see the GP first.
- *First contact physiotherapists in General Practice* provide assessment, diagnosis, exercise/ self-care advice, and if necessary, referral for investigations or treatment.
- They may work solely in General Practice (s) or they may be both part of the GP team and a physiotherapy team providing services in community or secondary care.
- *First contact physiotherapists in General Practice* have been given a variety of different job titles

Self-referral to physiotherapy services

Self-referral is the term for a means of accessing physiotherapy services, where patients can arrange an appointment without needing to be referred by a health professional.

Public interest arguments

There is a clear public interest for disclosure of this information, in that disclosure will:

- Further the understanding of and participation in the public debate of issues of the day, and will allow a more informed debate of issues under consideration by public bodies
- Promote accountability and transparency by public authorities for decisions taken by them.
- Promote accountability and transparency in the spending of public money.
- Allow individuals to understand decisions made by public authorities affecting their lives and, in some cases, assisting individuals in challenging those decisions.

CSP Freedom of Information Request – Physiotherapy staff and services at The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust		
Vacancies – as at 31.3.17		
	Total Vacancies WTE	Vacancies lasting 3 months WTE
Physiotherapists	4.8	0
Physiotherapy Support Workers	1.6	0
Posts – Funded Establishment WTE as at 31.3.17		
Physiotherapists	74.68	
Physiotherapy Support Workers	23.05 (+ 7.6 WTE therapy assistants who support Physio/OT and SALT therapists)	
Patient Demand		
Please confirm the number of new referrals to physiotherapy services in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, in the following financial years: THIS INFORMATION IS FOR HOSPITAL MSK OUTPATIENTS ONLY.	1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2017	8213
	1 April 2015 to end of 31 March 2016	8482
	1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2015	9484

Spending	
Please confirm how much was spent on physiotherapy agency/locum/temp staff in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, in the following financial years:	1 April 2016 to end of 31 March 2017 £73,521
	1 April 2015 to end of 31 March 2016 £127,214
	1 April 2014 to end of 31 March 2015 £59,543
Practice Based Learning	
Clinical areas within The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust physiotherapy services that have provided placements for physiotherapy undergraduates in the last financial year (1.4.16 – 31.3.17)	Acute medicine MSk Stroke T&O Elective orthopaedics Respiratory Vascular rehab Acute medical admissions
MSK Pathway	
Does The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust provide MSK services that include first contact physiotherapists in General Practice	No
Does The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust provide MSK physiotherapy services that patients can refer themselves to	No