

Trust Headquarters
 Russell's Hall Hospital
 Dudley
 West Midlands
 DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-112023-000464

Date: 2nd January 2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

Re Wheelchair Services

1. Which wheelchair services do you oversee?
2. When providing a powered wheelchair do you have specific criteria regarding ramping and the width of internal doorframes. When considering a ramp into a home what are the lengths and angle requirements and what door measurements are acceptable
3. Do you offer personal wheelchair budgets to your service users?
4. Are people living with Motor Neurone Disease prioritised in your services and what is the normal waiting time for an initial assessment.

Response

<p>1. Which wheelchair services do you oversee</p>	<p>With regards to community therapy and wheelchairs, the therapists may identify that a patient would benefit from a wheelchair whether that be powered or manual but all we are able to do following this is complete the wheelchair referral form and send onto wheelchair services, who then triage the referral and offer appointment for assessment as per their own practices.</p> <p>If a patient is identified as needing a powered wheelchair, then the GP has to sign off on this on the referral form.</p> <p>DGFT Community Therapy Services do not have oversight of any wheelchairs for assessment purposes or loan. The other options we discuss with patients is private purchase or private short-term loans of wheelchairs.</p>
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	We would recommend contacting Dudley Wheelchair Service (Ross Care).
2. When providing a powered wheelchair do you have specific criteria regarding ramping and the width of internal doorframes. When considering a ramp into a home what are the lengths and angle requirements and what door measurements are acceptable	<p>N/A For the Dudley Group</p> <p>If a patient has a powered wheelchair and requires adaptations for door frames, ramping etc then a referral would need to be made to Dudley Access Team for a referral to the housing OTs (Occupational Therapy) who have specialist knowledge in this area.</p> <p>Please contact Dudley Access Team for further clarification</p>
3. Do you offer personal wheelchair budgets to your service users	<p>ICB service would need to clarify for their provisions.</p> <p>Please contact the ICB (integrated care board)</p> <p>ICB provides Dudley Wheelchair service.</p>
4. Are people living with Motor Neurone Disease prioritised in your services and what is the normal waiting time for an initial assessment.	<p><i>Whilst people living with Motor Neurone Disease are prioritised in our Neurology services, the majority of follow up of patients with a confirmed diagnosis of Motor Neurone disease is performed by the MND team at QEHB rather than by general Neurology services in Dudley. I am not able to give an accurate figure for normal waiting time for an initial assessment of a patient with suspected MND, although these patients would be offered an urgent new patient OPA (Outpatient Appointment).</i></p>

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**