

Freedom of Information Request **19 047**

**Our Reference:** FOI 19 047 / AA / LB / PF  
**Name:**  
**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
**Address:**

Dear

Further to your Freedom of Information Request, please find the Trust's response below:

*I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2001 to request information in relation to the prevalence of internet gaming disorder (i.e. video game addiction) in the UK.*

Data Request under the Freedom of Information Act (2001)

*The prevalence of internet gaming disorder (i.e., video game addiction) in the UK is unknown at this point. Over the past year, the issue has garnered increasing publicity following the World Health Organization's official recognition of gaming addiction as a mental health condition in June 2018, enabling access to NHS treatments for those in the UK. As journalists in this field, we would like to gather information about the scale of the problem and current treatment provisions in the area of internet gaming addiction.*

1. *We would like to request the following information about the facilities and capacity to deal with internet gaming/video game addiction:*
  - a) *Types of services offered for problem gaming/video game addiction;*
  - b) *Number and job title of qualified mental health professionals within each service who offer treatment for internet gaming disorder;*
  - c) *Number of behavioural addiction specialists within the Trust;*
  - d) *Number of child and adolescent specialists who offer treatment for this disorder;*
  - e) *Lowest age limit for referral to service.*

Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust does not provide a specific service for gaming addiction.

2. *If you currently do not offer specific services for problem gaming/video game addiction, do you plan to in the future?*

Service provision would be led by our Commissioners and at present we are not aware of any plans to offer specific services for gaming addiction.

3. *We would also like to gather specific referral data for any individuals that had been referred for treatment of problem gaming for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (year to date), including the following information:*
  - a) *Number of referrals where problem gaming was the primary reason for referral;*
  - b) *Age of referrals;*
  - c) *Gender of referrals;*



- d) *Type of treatment and/or talking therapies offered;*
- e) *The estimated time spent on a waiting list prior to initial contact;*
- f) *How many attended first appointment;*
- g) *How many never attended;*
- h) *How many completed treatment;*

Please see response above.

*If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs.*

*I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this email. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.*

*If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.*

*If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined please provide further advice and assistance to indicate this.*

*If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email and I will be happy to clarify what I am asking for, my details are outlined below.*

Kind regards,

Freedom of Information Team  
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<https://www.humber.nhs.uk/about-our-trust/freedom-of-information-enquiry-form.htm>

