

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000204
Date 10 June 2016

Mental Health Assessment, Support and Treatment

Request:

My request is for information about services and support commissioned in your area that provide **mental health assessment, support and treatment** which actively target **people who are street homeless (sleeping rough)**.

People who are sleeping rough are sleeping in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments), or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations).

Rough sleeping does not include people in hostels or shelters, people in campsites or other sites used for recreational purposes or organised protest, squatters or travellers.

Services that provide mental health assessment, support and treatment targeting people sleeping rough might include:

- NHS mental health services
- GP practices
- Other services that include staff trained to conduct mental health assessments and who are able to make direct referrals into NHS mental health services (e.g. those provided by local authorities or commissioned services provided by the voluntary sector)

Examples could include:

- A mental health homelessness outreach team designed for people sleeping rough with mental health problems that includes doctors, nurses, psychologists and/or psychotherapists.
- A mental health assertive outreach service that expressly targets people sleeping rough.
- A GP practice which is commissioned to provide targeted mental health assessment, treatment and referrals for people sleeping rough.
- A commissioned mental health service based in a day centre or night shelter for people sleeping rough.

I am aware that services of this type may be commissioned by clinical commissioning groups or by local authorities, or they may be jointly commissioned. This request will also be issued to relevant clinical commissioning groups. If services are jointly commissioned, I would be grateful if you could still provide all the

requested information.

Please provide an itemised list of any services that provide mental health support and treatment actively targeting people who are sleeping rough that you funded in:

- A. 2015-16
- B. 2014-15
- C. 2013-14
- D. 2012-13
- E. 2011-12

For each service, please provide a brief description and details about who the service is for, who it is commissioned by, and the value of the contract in each specified financial year.

In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the requested information above relating specifically to people who are street homeless (sleeping rough). Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".