

Freedom of Information Team  
Post Room  
Queen Alexandra Hospital  
Southwick Hill Road  
Portsmouth  
Hampshire  
PO6 3LY

Name:  
Email:  
Date: 24/05/2021  
Ref: 21-22 054

Dear

### **Freedom of Information request**

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by the Trust on 26/04/2021.

- 1. Please could you confirm whether in January 2020 you had any local guidance in place, which specifically considered, in an acute setting:**
  - **The management of withdrawal from illicit drugs**  
And/or
  - **The continuation of community substitution prescriptions for drug dependence (such as opioid substitution therapy)**  
And/or
  - **The initiation of such a prescription**

**Please could you share this guidance with us (as it was in January 2020) under the terms of the FOI Act, or otherwise point us to where it could be found in the public domain.**

In January 2020 the Trust did not have a drug therapy guideline in place which covers the management of withdrawal from illicit drugs, the continuation of community substitution prescriptions for drug dependence (such as opioid substitution therapy) or the initiation of such a prescription.

There is a Substance Misuse Policy but not a drug therapy guideline in place at the moment. Please see below:

[Naloxone for the treatment of opioid overdose in adults](#)

Please see the Trust wide policies links below around substance misuse:

- [Substance Misuse Policy](#)
- [YPH Support Alcohol and Substance Misuse Services for Young People](#)

Please accept this letter as completion of your request. Please note that copies of this request will be held on file for three years before being confidentially destroyed.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, please contact our Head of Information Governance on [Information.Governance@porthosp.nhs.uk](mailto:Information.Governance@porthosp.nhs.uk) or write to the above address and we will conduct an internal review. Upon review, if you are still dissatisfied, you may appeal our decision by contacting the Information Commissioner's Office; for more information please visit the [ICO's website](#).

Please be aware, if we do not receive an appeal within 30 days of you receiving this letter, we will assume that you are satisfied with our response. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team