Torbay and South Devon
NHS Foundation Trust

Email: foi.tsdft@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10969

2 November 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

I am particularly interested in sleep clinics or sleep medicine services treating conditions such as sleep apnoea, insomnia, narcolepsy and other sleep disorders.

Period requested
Please provide the following information for each of these four reporting dates:
- 31 August 2023
- 31 August 2024
- 31 August 2025
- 31 August 2026
Historical data is not held. The figures provided reflect the current position as at 28 October 2026.

Information requested:

1. **Patients waiting for an initial sleep clinic appointment**
How many patients were waiting for their first appointment with a sleep clinic or sleep medicine service following a referral on each reporting date?
43 Patients

Please exclude patients waiting solely for a diagnostic sleep study or follow-up appointment where they have already attended an initial consultation.

2. **Patients experiencing extended waiting times**
Of the patients identified in Question 1, how many had already been waiting:
- **More than 12 weeks?** 43
- **More than 26 weeks?** 32
- **More than 52 weeks?** 0

All 43 patients have waited more than 12 weeks, including 32 who have waited more than 26 weeks. None have waited more than 52 weeks.

Please provide these figures for each of the four reporting dates.

3. **Longest waiting time**
What was the longest recorded ongoing waiting time, in weeks, for a patient awaiting their first sleep clinic appointment on each reporting date?
Please measure this from the date the referral was received to the relevant reporting date.
38 Weeks

4. **Patients waiting to begin CPAP treatment**
How many patients were waiting to start continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) treatment for sleep apnoea, following a clinical decision to provide it, on each reporting date?
107 Patients

5. **Delays in starting CPAP treatment**
Of the patients identified in Question 4, how many had already been waiting:
   - **More than 26 weeks?** 0
   - **More than 52 weeks?** 0

Please measure these waits from the date of the clinical decision to commence CPAP treatment to the relevant reporting date.

Clarification
For Questions 1–3, I am interested in patients awaiting their first consultation with a sleep medicine service, rather than those waiting solely for a diagnostic test or follow-up appointment.

For Questions 4–5, I am interested in patients who have already had a clinical decision to commence CPAP treatment but have not yet started treatment.

If figures are not held for any of the specified dates, please provide the closest available month-end figures and clearly identify the reporting dates used. If historical information is unavailable, I would still welcome the most recent figures.

If your trust operates sleep services across multiple hospital sites, I would prefer figures broken down by hospital. However, trust-wide totals are perfectly acceptable if these are recorded together.

If your trust does not provide sleep medicine services or CPAP treatment, please confirm this and answer any questions relevant to the services you do provide.

I am requesting information already held by your trust and am not seeking any personal or identifying information.

Cost limits and partial disclosure
If providing the full request would exceed the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, I would be grateful if you could consider providing any information that can be disclosed within the applicable limit.

For example, if the historical figures or CPAP treatment information cannot be provided, I would still welcome the most recent waiting-list figures for Questions 1–3.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Information Governance Team at Information Governance and Data Protection, Belmont Court, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Torquay, TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.igteam@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team