

Improving lives



Date: 23 December 2020

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – SECTION 8 REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information dated 25/11/2020. Your request has been managed under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested the following information under section 8 of the Act:

In respect of the preceding 12-month period:

1. A list of all diagnostic facilities and therapeutic support available in or at Belmarsh Prison since the date of submission or publication of the "Coker Report";
COVID testing has been available at Belmarsh throughout the pandemic, Belmarsh is currently working in conjunction with public health England in relation to the risks associated with COVID-19 and we are satisfied that all the appropriate measures are in place.

Belmarsh are working closely with the pathology department to ensure that COVID-19 swab results are available at the earliest opportunity

PPE has been available throughout.

Updates relating to COVID-19 are shared with prisoners on the prison TV channel which is available to all prisoners in their cell. Posters on COVID are displayed around the prison.

Healthcare has the facility to dial into prisoners in their cells for the purpose of GP/Psychiatrist/Psychology/mental health team consultations.

All new receptions into Belmarsh are swabbed for COVID-19 and placed on a reverse cohort unit. There is an isolation unit for positive cases.

2. The number of Covid-19 positive cases in Belmarsh Prison of detainees;
As with a community setting the number of positive cases within the prison fluctuates on a day-to-day basis, and as at 17/12/20 the number of positive cases is 1. There have been a total of 81 Covid-19 positive cases this year.
3. The number of Covid-19 positive cases in Belmarsh Prison of personnel;
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.

4. Information on measures taken to mitigate risks in custody and to shield vulnerable individuals from Covid-19;

All individuals that fall on the vulnerable category have been seen by health care and supported to shield, those that chose not to follow government guidelines were asked to sign a disclaimer.

Medication provided in possession where a risk assessment permits.

Meals and medication delivered to cell doors for those choosing to shield, Welfare checks completed on those at risk.

In cell activity distraction packs available to prisoners

5. Information on breaches, deviations or non-compliance from the following:
 - a. The Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.
 - b. The Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under any form of Detention or Imprisonment
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.
 - c. The Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.
6. Information as to how many prisoner file audits have been conducted by an independent oversight authority, and if so, on which dates?
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.
7. Information as to whether and in what manner the Nelson Mandela Prison Rules are implemented in Belmarsh prison.
Information not held - Please contact HMP Belmarsh for this information.

If you have any queries or concerns or are dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you wish to request a review of the decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager, Julie Lucas via email at [REDACTED] in the first instance. If you remain unsatisfied with the outcome of your review and wish to make a formal complaint, please address this to: Complaints, Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust, Pinewood House, Pinewood Place, Dartford, DA2 7WG - Email: [REDACTED]

In addition if you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (Telephone: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545 745 - www.ico.org.uk).

Kind regards,

Paul Bransgrove
Information Governance Officer

[REDACTED]
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