

Our Ref: 66/2022  
JANUARY 2022

## Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing to request information regarding services that you provide for musculoskeletal conditions, and specifically low back pain. I would appreciate your help with the following questions. The questions are all with regards to outpatient and/or community physiotherapy services:

1. Please briefly outline the relevant services within outpatient and/or community physiotherapy that you are commissioned to provide for musculoskeletal conditions, and any services that are specific to back pain?

DBTH provides outpatient and community MSK Physiotherapy services at DRI/MMH/BDGH/Retford Primary Care Centre/Vermuyden Centre/White Wings Centre/Martin Wells Centre. Services run Monday- Friday 07:30-18:00. DBTH is not commissioned to provide a service specifically for back pain.

2. What is the current average waiting time for a musculoskeletal physiotherapy appointment for a new referral or self-referral for non-specific lower back pain? (if you are not able to answer this specifically for low back pain please provide the figure for musculoskeletal physiotherapy more generally in your service)

For MSK Physiotherapy the average wait is under 6 weeks. Specific data for lower back pain is not available.

3. How has the waiting time for musculoskeletal physiotherapy appointments for lower back pain changed over the historical time period for which you have data? If possible, an annual figure for each of the last 5-10 years would be most helpful. (Again, please answer for general musculoskeletal physiotherapy services if you do not hold specific data for back pain).

Historical data is not available

4. How many patients are currently on your waiting list(s) for physiotherapy services for lower back pain?

There are currently 599 patients on the waiting list for MSK Physiotherapy across all sites. Specific data for lower back pain is not available.

5. How many patients are currently on your waiting list(s) for physiotherapy services across all musculoskeletal conditions?

As above

6. Does your musculoskeletal physiotherapy service(s) accept self-referrals from patients for back pain (as opposed to requiring a GP or primary care referral)?

No, Primary and secondary care referrals only

7. What is the contract type by which you are commissioned to provide musculoskeletal physiotherapy services?

### Block contract

- a. If paid by activity and/or outcomes/results please provide the unit costs used to charge the CCG (e.g. cost per physio appointment)
- b. If part of a block contract please provide the details of any KPIs (and the associated incentives) within that block contract used to measure/monitor the quality of MSK physiotherapy services

- Urgent referrals to be seen within 10 working days from referral
- Routine referrals to be seen within 30 working days from referral

8. How does the average healthcare spend per patient for non-specific low back pain break down across different services and costs?

Specific data for low back pain patients is not available