

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/454

Subject: Funding, Commissioning Pathways, and IFR Data for Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) & Dissociative Disorders

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) regarding NHS funding frameworks, Individual Funding Requests (IFRs), and Prior Approval pathways for the specialist assessment and treatment of complex trauma and dissociative disorders.</p> <p>Clarification regarding Section 21 (Information Accessible by Other Means):</p> <p>For Part 1, I am requesting direct “Yes/No” answers to factual questions regarding your internal clinical commissioning processes. Because the application of generic mental health policies to specific complex conditions is rarely explicit in published documents, providing direct Yes/No answers will satisfy this request without requiring document retrieval or website redirection.</p>	
<p>Part 1: Clinical Decision-Making Frameworks</p> <p>Please provide a “Yes” or “No” answer to the following four questions regarding how the ICB assesses funding for Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) and other dissociative conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the ICB hold a written policy, clinical pathway, or bespoke criteria specifically tailored for assessing funding requests for dissociative disorders? (Yes/No) 2. If no, are funding requests for dissociative disorders evaluated solely against the ICB’s generic IFR “clinical exceptionality” policy? (Yes/No) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No 2. Yes 3. No 4. Yes 5. No 6. No

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. When evaluating funding requests for dissociative disorders, does the ICB explicitly require clinical input or panel representation from a specialist with formal expertise in complex trauma and dissociation? (Yes/No) 4. When evaluating funding requests for dissociative disorders, does the ICB apply a specific clinical effectiveness and/or cost-effectiveness criterion to the decision? (Yes/No) 5. Does the ICB explicitly classify specialist treatments for dissociative disorders as a “Low Priority” treatment, or include them within a “Procedures of Limited Clinical Value” (PLCV) or “Not Routinely Commissioned” policy list? (Yes/No) 6. Does the ICB currently hold a block contract or formal commissioning arrangement with a local NHS mental health trust that specifically includes a dedicated, specialist diagnostic and treatment pathway for Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID)? (Yes/No) | |
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Part 2: IFR Statistics & Specialist Provider Approvals (1 July 2022 – 31 December 2025) Section 11 (Format of Disclosure):

Under Section 11(1) of the FOIA, I formally request that this data be provided in an electronic spreadsheet format (.xlsx or .csv). As established by the Court of Appeal (Innes v Information Commissioner), providing tabular data in an un-editable PDF when a spreadsheet is requested does not satisfy Section 11 obligations.

Please provide the following data fields, structured with separate columns for the following years:

- a. 2022 (1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022)
- b. 2023 (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023)
- c. 2024 (1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024)
- d. 2025 (1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025)

Assessment and Treatment Data:

7. Total number of IFR/Prior Approval requests received for specialist dissociative disorder assessments.
8. Total number of these assessment requests approved.
9. Total number of IFR/Prior Approval requests received for specialist dissociative disorder treatments.
10. Total number of these treatment requests approved.

Funded Specialist Providers:

11. Of the approved treatment requests identified in Question 8, please provide a numerical breakdown of

Please refer to enclosed spreadsheet.

<p>how many were funded for the following specialist independent clinics and NHS services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clinic for Dissociative Studies (CDS) b. CTAD Clinic / Cheshire Psychology c. The Pottergate Centre d. South London and Maudsley (SLaM) Trauma and Dissociation Service (TDS) e. Other external/independent providers (grouped total) 																
<p>Further Data:</p> <p>12. Total combined number of IFR/Prior Approval requests received across ALL medical and mental health conditions.</p> <p>13. Total combined number of IFR/Prior Approval requests approved across ALL medical and mental health conditions.</p> <p>Further clarification regarding questions 12 & 13:</p> <p>My apologies for the poor wording. These questions relate to all conditions (no specificity). The sum of all IFR/Prior Approval requests.</p> <p>An inference was made that the data may be held separately. To clarify, I am seeking all requests, ideally in one central spreadsheet that hosts all this data.</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="1048 837 2056 1040"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Total EFR/PAs Received</th> <th>Total EFR/PAs Approved</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022 (Jul-Dec)</td> <td>1265</td> <td>743</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>3726</td> <td>2594</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024</td> <td>3790</td> <td>2827</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2025</td> <td>4023</td> <td>3164</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Total EFR/PAs Received	Total EFR/PAs Approved	2022 (Jul-Dec)	1265	743	2023	3726	2594	2024	3790	2827	2025	4023	3164
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The information provided in this response is accurate as of 27 April 2026 and has been approved for release by Helena Fuller, Deputy Director of Business, Strategy and Planning and Rosi Shepherd, Chief Clinical Leadership and Delivery Officer (Nursing) for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.

	a. 2022	b. 2023	c. 2024	d. 2025	Total
7. Total number of IFR/Prior Approval requests received for specialist dissociative disorder assessments	<5	<5	<5	<5 (assessment only)	10
8. Total number of these assessment requests approved	<5	<5	<5	0	6
9. Total number of IFR/Prior Approval requests received for specialist dissociative disorder treatments	<5	<5	<5	<5* (assessment and treatment)	15
10. Total number of these treatment requests approved	<5	<5	<5	<5* (assessment only via Right to Choose)	8
	a. Clinic for Dissociative Studies (CDS)	b. CTAD Clinic / Cheshire Psychology	c. The Pottergate Centre	d. South London and Maudsley (SLaM) Trauma and Dissociation Service (TDS)	e. Other external/independent providers (grouped total)
11. Of the approved treatment requests identified in Question 8, please provide a numerical breakdown of how many were funded for the following specialist independent clinics and NHS services: Clinic for Dissociative Studies (CDS)	<5	<10	0	<5	N/A

Please note: '<5' and '<10' have been used where the numbers are under 5/10 as this could make the data identifiable.