

## **Freedom of Information – Response – 27512**

*I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to treatment for prescription opioid dependence within your local authority area. Please could you provide answers to the following questions:*

*1. Is there a commissioned pathway within your local authority area for individuals with severe prescription opioid dependence (for example, codeine, dihydrocodeine, tramadol, morphine or oxycodone dependence) to access assessment for opioid substitution treatment (OST) where clinically indicated?*

Yes, Suffolk County Council commissions a service which includes treatment pathways for those experiencing opioid dependence, regardless of whether the substance is prescribed or illicit.

*2. If such a pathway exists, which service or provider is responsible for delivering this treatment?*

Turning Point is responsible for delivering treatment for problematic use of drugs and/or alcohol.

*3. Can methadone and/or buprenorphine be prescribed for individuals whose primary dependence is on prescribed opioids rather than illicit opioids?*

This would be a clinical decision made by Turning Point, Suffolk County Council does not hold this information.

*4. Are there any restrictions, exclusions or eligibility criteria that would prevent an individual with prescription opioid dependence from accessing OST?*

This question should be directed to Turning Point. Suffolk County Council does not hold this information.

*5. How many individuals whose primary substance was a prescribed opioid received opioid substitution treatment within your area during the most recent 12-month period for which data is available?*

Suffolk County Council does not hold data specific to individual substances. Data is grouped by substance type (e.g. Opiate/Non-Opiate/Alcohol etc) Suffolk County Council does not hold data that determines whether a substance is prescribed or illicit.

*6. If OST is not available for people with prescription opioid dependence, what treatment pathway is commissioned for these individuals?*

Suffolk County Council does not hold this data. Treatment pathways and any appropriate prescribing regimes are determined based on assessments undertaken by the treatment provider.