

FOI_0430_21/22 – FOI request concerning - Secure Outdoor Spaces for Mental Health Wards

1. Please name all mental health wards you are operating. For each ward, please state whether they are low/medium/high secure and to which kind of ward it belongs to out of the following:

a) **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Wards**
N/A

b) **Adult Mental Health Wards**
Maple Ward, Hawthorn Ward

c) **Learning Disabilities Wards**
N/A

d) **Older People's Mental Health Wards**
Brooker Ward

None of the wards are low, medium or high secure, Maples is a Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit, Hawthorn is an Acute admissions ward and Brooker is an Acute admissions ward.

2. For each of the identified wards, please state if they have secure outdoor spaces that patients can access and use. To clarify outdoor spaces, I am referring to any outdoor area belonging to ward that can be accessed by its patients. This includes gardens, courtyards or any other similar space.

Maple ward- Yes

Hawthorn ward- Yes

Brooker ward- Yes

3. If such spaces exist, please provide guidelines that specify the use of secure outdoor spaces. If no guidelines exist, please provide answers to the following questions:

a) **Can the secure outdoor spaces be used by all patients?**
Yes

b) **How many patients can be in these spaces at the same time?**

All (unless individual risk assessment prevents this)



- c) Can all patients freely access these spaces whenever they want or need to?**

All access is with staff supervision, staff are allocated to Garden duty to ensure access is always possible.

- d) For each of such spaces, please state its size in square meters.**

Maples: 370m²

Hawthorn: 350m²

Brooker: Garden 1: 325m², Garden 2 250m²

- e) If possible, could you also provide the makeup of the outdoor space. This refers to whether the space is concrete or has grassy areas. Please detail which of the two makes up the majority of the outdoor space.**

All garden are a mixture of paved and grass areas. Maple Ward garden is mostly grass. Hawthorn Garden is an equal balance of paved and grass with printed artwork (forest scene) on the fencing panels. Brooker Ward is a mixture of paved pathways, grass and planted raised flower beds

- 4. Please state if there have been any changes to the use of secure outdoor spaces because of the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Staff have supported patients to maintain social distancing in both indoor and outdoor communal spaces. Work is underway to convert other outdoor spaces into patient access areas to increase the accessible outdoor space.