



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-285

Date: 28th August 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 1st August 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding sexual safety

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with the following information about sexual safety incidents that have taken place at your trust, including but not limited to sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault and rape. (See after the question for clarification on these definitions.)

In order to assist you, I understand that some, if not all of this information should be recorded in the trust's safety incident reporting system, or it may be recorded by your HR team.

Please use the attached spreadsheet to provide your answers, and to explain any gaps in your data.

N.B. This is my new dedicated FOI email address. Please respond to this email.

Total sexual safety incidents

1. How many sexual safety incidents did the trust record? (This includes incidents by all alleged perpetrators against all alleged victims: staff, patients, visitors, members of the public)

1.1 in 2022/23 financial year

1.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Sexual safety incidents by staff against patients

2. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against patients did the trust record?

2.1 in 2022/23 financial year

2.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Sexual violence and misconduct by patients against other patients

3. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against other patients did the trust record?

3.1 in 2022/23 financial year

3.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Sexual safety incidents by patients against staff

4. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record?

4.1 in 2022/23 financial year

4.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Sexual safety incidents by staff against other staff

5 How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against other staff did the trust record?

5.1 in 2022/23 financial year

5.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Age of alleged victims

6. How many of the sexual safety incidents did the trust record where the victim was a patient:

6.1 Under 18 (this includes under 16 and under 13)

6.2 Under 16 (this includes under 13)

6.3 Under 13

Please provide figures for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.

7. How many incidents of physical violence perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record?

7.1 in 2022/23 financial year

7.2 in 2023/24 financial year

Terminology:

Sexual safety incidents include any behaviour of a sexual nature that is unwanted, or makes another person feel uncomfortable or afraid. This covers:

- **sexual assault: when a person is coerced or physically forced to engage in sexual activity against their will, or when a person (of any gender) touches another person sexually without their consent.**
- **sexual harassment: any behaviour that is characterised by inappropriate sexual remarks, gestures or physical advances which are unwanted and make a person feel uncomfortable, intimidated or degrade their dignity.**
- **Other sexual incidents: where an individual may have witnessed or experienced something of a sexual nature that does not fit in to the categories of sexual**

harassment or assault, and which made the person feel uncomfortable and/or sexually unsafe.

* * *

N.B. If you require any clarification, please contact me under your Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance.

Please use the spreadsheet below to provide your answers, following the Court of Appeal decision in Innes vs Information Commissioner and Buckinghamshire County Council (2014) GIA/3436/2011 regarding the format of the response, i.e. you should provide the response in the format requested.

I have provided this spreadsheet in both Excel and CSV formats. You only need to fill out one version.

If the decision is made to withhold some of this data using exemptions in the Data Protection Act, please inform me of that fact and cite the exemptions used.

- A1 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding this question, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*. This is because the information is available via the Trust's public website at the following link: FOI ref
- 195-2425 June 2024
 - 733-2324 January 2024
 - 710-2324 January 2024
 - 087-2324 May 2023

<http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/about-us/regulatory-information/freedom-of-information-publication-scheme/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log/>

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records