



Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-279

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Email [foi@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (received into our office 12<sup>th</sup> October) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Violence Prevention Teams

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 I would like to request information relating to service provision for patients attending Emergency Departments who are victims of violence.**

**Some Emergency Departments have specific staff or teams who work to identify victims of violence. Types of violence can include, but are not limited to, sexual assault, domestic violence, and alcohol-related violence. They would then work with patients to identify their needs and/or refer to other services as required. For example, to drug and alcohol counselling, domestic abuse teams and other organisations both within and external to the NHS.**

**In your Emergency Departments are adults and/or children attending with assault-related injuries or attending as victims of violence identified for interventions that go beyond their immediate health needs?**

**If yes, we would be grateful to receive information detailing:**

**The remit of this violence-specific work. Specifically, which types of patients are identified (e.g. domestic assault, sexual assault, alcohol-related assault, etc.) and whether identification is specific to a group of patients (e.g. women, children).**

**Approximately how many staff are involved with any specific violence-related initiatives.**

**A1** We identify all patients who are victims of violence, whether this be domestic, sexual or alcohol related and this is not specific to any category or grouping of the patients. We deal with Men, Women and children. At UHNM We have two dedicated link nurses who then disseminate information/training to the wider team.

**Q2 Approximately when the service(s) started (year and month).**

- A2 At UHNM this service started more than 5 years ago
- Q3 Whether the staff involved with the service(s) in the Emergency Department are NHS employees, employees of other organisations.**
- A3 We have staff both inside and outside of the NHS to support with this service
- Q4 In the case that patients are referred to service(s) outside of the NHS, which services they are typically referred to.**
- A4 Domestic Violence Service, Drug and alcohol services, Mental Health Liaison Team (MHLT), Rapid, Assessment, Interface and Discharge team (RAID), Social Services.
- Q5 In the case that patients are referred to service(s) inside the NHS, which services/specialities they are typically referred to.**
- A5 As answer 4
- Q6 In your response, it would be appreciated if you could highlight which hospital is being referred to when advising of whether such an initiative is in operation in the A&E department.**
- If the Trust covers more than one hospital, please note we are looking to audit all initiatives in all hospital A&E departments.**
- A6 Whilst we have more than one site, we do operate as one hospital and so processes are the same at both sites

\*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.

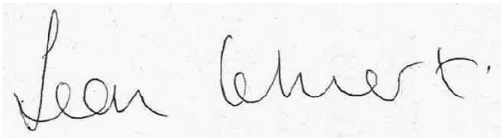
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**