



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-195

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date 19th August 2024

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear Mr/Ms

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 17th June 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Sexual Safety Incidents patients aged 60+

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 FOI Request – Alleged Sexual Assaults against people aged 60 and over by staff members

In 2022 I published a research paper on sexual assaults of people aged 60 and over that took place in an NHS England hospital setting where the alleged perpetrator was a member of hospital staff (either directly employed or agency staff). This research included data from a five year period from 2016/17 to 2020/21 and identified at least 76 incidents that were reported via NHS data collection systems.

I am now revisiting this research, in partnership with UK Charity Hourglass (Safer Ageing) and requesting data for the three financial years 2021/22 to 2023/24.

In revisiting the research I aim to discover not only if there have been any statistical changes but also if introduction of Sexual Safety Policies by NHS England have had any impact on the numbers or response to victims.

FOI Questions: (also attached on a Word document if this is easier for you to complete and return)

1. How many sexual safety incidents has the trust recorded where the alleged victim was a patient aged 60 or over and the alleged perpetrator was a staff member (including agency staff)?

Please provide figures for:

April 2021 to the end of March 2024 (total)

2021-22

2022-23

2023-24

2. Do you have a Sexual Safety policy in place that covers assaults on patients by staff?

3. Does the policy also explicitly address the sexual abuse of older people?

4. Have staff received training on dealing with sexual abuse against people with dementia?

5. What training have staff received on dealing with sexual abuse against people with dementia?

6. Is this training mandatory for staff dealing with patients with dementia?

7. If your hospital has incidents recorded, please provide more information:

Sex of victims

No. Male

No. Female

No. Other

8. Sex of alleged perpetrator

No. Male

No. Female

No. Other

9. Role(s) of alleged perpetrators

HCA

Nursing Staff

Surgeon

Anaesthetist

Other

10. Locations of alleged incidents (pls specify number for each incident)

Same Sex Ward

Single Sex Ward

Theatre

Public Area

Other

11. Was incident reported to the police (please specify number for each incident)

Yes

No

Unknown

12. If not reported, please give reasons for this:

Please indicate if outcome of any police investigations if known:

13. Was a referral made to the local Sexual Assault Referral Centre?
(please specify number for each incident) Yes No Unknown

14 Was the victim signposted to sexual violence support services (please specify number for each incident) Yes No Unknown

A1 See attached document that you supplied

*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