



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-417

Date: 13th December 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 17th November 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding sexual assault.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 How many allegations of sexual assault committed by staff or contractors on Trust estates have been reported since 2016?

Please provide these figures year-by-year, including the most recently available figure for 2021 so far.

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

Allegations recorded on Datix:

- 2016: <5
- 2017: 0
- 2018: 0
- 2019: 0
- 2020: <5
- 2021: <5 (1st January 2021 – 30th September 2021)

Q2 Is your Trust's Security provided by the NHS or by a private contractor?

A2 See below:

- County Hospital: in house provision
- Royal Stoke: contracted service through the Project Agreement

Q3 If by a private contractor, please state their name.

A3 Sodexo

Q4 What is your current policy on DBS checks for staff? Please specify which kinds of staff, if any, are DBS checked.

Please provide the information in an electronic format, ideally in an Excel format.

A4 See attached Policy

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

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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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.

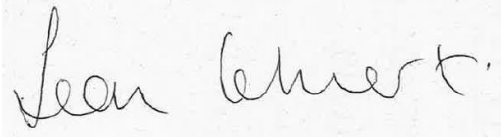
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager