

FOI 1805

20.07.2023

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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- 1. The number of instances within the last year whereby Approved Social Worker cover was not available in Emergency Departments for your Trust area.**

The SHSCT operates day time ASW rota of 9am to 5pm had no instances when an Approved Social Worker was not available to respond to the Emergency Departments within this Trust area.

- 2. The current number of Approved Social Work staff on long-term sick leave.**

Currently we have <5 Approved Social Worker on long-term sick leave.

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality and, in line with this duty, the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves and the sensitivity of the information requested. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018.

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