

FOI 1829

18/08/2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**Question 1. Number of sexual assaults by nurses on patients annually since 2008.****Response - <5*****Question 2. Number of sexual assaults by staff members on patients since 2008.****Response - <5***

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.

*This data includes any incident coded as "Sexual Assault" by a staff member on a patient. For noting, it includes incidents relating to an allegation (either founded or unfounded) of sexual assault.

Information was not available for searching between April 2008 and September 2010.

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