

FOI 2133

24th January 2024**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

Question:

Please could you provide the following information for each of the past five years (2019-2023):

The number of reports of sexual assaults within children's homes.

Response:

Year	Total reported alleged sexual assaults, which occurred within the Children's home setting and were reported by staff, service users or visitors
2019	Less than 5
2020	Less than 5
2021	9
2022	6
2023	0

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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