

FOI 2575

07/08/2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Under Freedom of Information legislation please provide the number of the following incidents relating to children in care in each of the last three calendar years to date (ending 19 July 2024)

1. **Self-harm**
2. **Attempted suicide**
3. **Completed suicide.**

Thank you

The Trust has provided the below breakdown of the categories above to highlight the various levels of nature self harming/self injurious behaviours children and young people in care can engage in. It is important to highlight that individual young people with a coping strategy of self injurious behaviour will have multiple incidents recorded. The figures are not indicative of the number of young people engaged in this behaviour nor the complexity of the young people in care and multiple different reasons for self harm.

	Actual self harm	Other self harming behaviour	Self harm attempt/gesture	Suicide attempt/gesture (not overdose)	Suicide attempt/gesture (overdose)	Suicide (actual)
2021	154	109	36	23	8	0
2022	154	73	31	16	<5**	0
2023	170	90	26	<5**	<5**	0
2024 (up to 19.07.24)	145	50	17	<5**	6	0

**The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality, 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 level of media reporting in respect of the subject matter. 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.

S40 (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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