

Date: Tuesday, 23rd June 2020
Our Ref: MB/SS FOI 4358

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4358

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 08th June 2020.

Your request was as follows:

Q1. Please state (yes or no) whether your trust has carried out a risk-assessment of staff at potentially greater risk of COVID-19, including people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds. [If answer to Q1 is yes, please answer questions 2-5]

Yes.

Q2. Please state when this risk assessment was carried out.

The risk assessment has been in use at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT) from 04/05/2020.

Q3. Please provide a short summary of what the risk assessment entailed.

The risk assessment is constantly improving and adding more features, but it basically provides guidance on the factors which increase the risk to BAME staff the possible control measures and a way for managers and BAME staff to record the control measures agreed. There is also provision for BAME staff to contact the WCFT's Equality and Inclusion Lead if there are any problems or disputes over the correct control measures to employ.

Q4. Please provide a copy of the findings of the risk assessment.

The risk assessment is a document recording and mitigating the risk to individual BAME staff members. The findings from the risk assessments have not yet been collated centrally, provisions are being organised at a local level., therefore this information can not be provided.

Q5. Please list and provide brief details of any measures that your trust has subsequently put in place to offer protection to staff who are at higher risk from COVID-19.

The following measures are made available to staff who are at higher risk from COVID-19:

- Redeploy away from hot Covid environments.
- Avoid direct contact with known or suspected Covid patients where possible
- Move to lower risk area with appropriate support measures
- Home Working

Please see our response above in blue.



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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4358 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information