

Date: Friday, 19th May 2023
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 5738

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5738

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 15th May 2023.

Your request was as follows:

For each question, please can you provide data for the following years - 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 to date.

1. How many sexual assaults were reported to the trust?

a) Of these allegations, please advise whether they were:

i) On Staff carried out by a staff Member

ii) On Staff carried out by a patient or visitor

iii) By Staff on a Patient

iv) By Staff on a visitor

v) On Staff carried out by a visitor

vi) On a patient carried out by a patient

b) Of these alleged offences, how many were reported to the police?

c) If these alleged offences involved members of staff or contractors of the trust, please outline whether disciplinary proceedings took place and what was the outcome?

1) I can confirm that from 1st January 2020 to date The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust received 11 reports of sexual assault.

a) I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

Section 40 (2) – Third Party Data

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), due to the minimal number of patients/staff identified as data requested is relating to 1-5 patients/staff members. In answering your query may lead to the undue stress of families and patients/staff as this information may still lead to patients/staff

being identified. Therefore, this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test. This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

- b) None of the alleged offences were reported to the police.
- c) None of the alleged offences resulted in disciplinary proceedings.

2. How many rapes were reported to the trust?

a) Of these allegations, please advise whether they were:

- i) On Staff carried out by a staff Member
- ii) On Staff carried out by a patient or visitor
- iii) By Staff on a Patient
- iv) By Staff on a visitor
- v) On Staff carried out by a visitor
- vi) On a patient carried out by a patient

b) Of these alleged offences, how many were reported to the police?

c) If these alleged offences involved members of staff or contractors of the trust, please outline whether disciplinary proceedings took place and what was the outcome?

2) I can confirm that the WCFT has not had any rapes reported.

- a) N/A
- b) N/A
- c) N/A

Please see our response above in blue.

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with

guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

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 5738 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 by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information