

Date: Monday, 09th October 2023  
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 5973

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

**Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5973**

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 06th October 2023.

Your request was as follows:

This request relates to employment tribunals/disputes defended by your Trust relating to claims made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 (i.e., where claimants allege to have suffered detriment, including unfair dismissal, as a result of making a 'protected disclosure' or 'public interest disclosure' or 'whistleblowing disclosure') since the start of the 2012/13 tax year.

Question 1:

- a)  Please state the total number of employment tribunals/disputes brought under the Public Interest Disclosure Act defended by your Trust since April 2012.
- b)  If possible without triggering s40 of the FOIA, please provide a yearly breakdown in tax years (2012/13-2022/23) of question 1.a.

[I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust have not defended any employment tribunals/disputes brought under the Public Interest Disclosure Act since April 2012.](#)

Question 2:

- a)  Please state the total paid out in legal fees (including legal advice) by your Trust defending employment tribunals/disputes brought under the Public Interest Disclosure Act since April 2012.
- b)  If possible without triggering s40 of the FOIA, please provide a yearly breakdown in tax years (2012/13-2022/23) of question 2.a.

N/A

Question 3:

- a)  Please state the total amount spent on the individual employment tribunal/dispute brought under the Public Interest Disclosure Act defended by your Trust, which cost your Trust the highest sum in legal fees, since April 2012.

N/A

Question 4:

- a)  Please state the total number of employment tribunals/disputes brought under the Public Interest Disclosure Act defended by your Trust, which resulted in the use of a Non-Disclosure Agreement ('NDA' or 'confidentially clause'), since April 2012.
- b)  If possible without triggering s40 of the FOIA, please provide a yearly breakdown in tax years (2012/13-2022/23) of question 4.a.

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](http://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](http://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 5973 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**