

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 21-021

27 January 2021

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

1. Please provide the total number of whistleblowing concerns received between 01/03/2019 and 31/08/2019 by University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply Section 21 of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the following link:

https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/assets/1/v3_public_board_may_2020_pdf_pack.pdf

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

2. Please provide the total number of whistleblowing concerns received by University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust between 01/03/2020 and 31/08/2020

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply Section 21 of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the following link:

https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/assets/1/papers_for_website_octv2_with_ftsu_report.pdf

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3. Please provide the following information for each whistleblowing concern received by University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust between 01/03/2020 and 31/08/2020:

a. A brief summary of the whistleblowing concern.

We have not provided the information in the requested format as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the

Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

b. Whether any action was taken following the concern, and if so, a brief description of the action taken.

We have not provided the information in the requested format as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

c. If the person provided the information anonymously (i.e. they did not provide you with their name and/or contact details) please indicate this.

There was one case.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, 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:

Director of Corporate Governance
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above 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 Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust