

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-061

9 March 2023

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 hold some of the information you are requesting

I am asking for the number of medical negligence claims made against the individual NHS hospitals within your Trust in the last full year. I require the following details within the information you provide:

- **Hospital name**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **Trust name**

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

- **Year of data**

2021/2022

- **Number of admissions**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

Please note that the Bristol Heart Institute admissions are combined with the Bristol Royal Infirmary.

- **Number of hospital beds**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **Number of negligence claims received**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **Number of Letters of Claims received**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **How many SIRC / RCA / Serious Incident reports have you prepared**

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/uhbw_quality_account_2021-22 - final.pdf](https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/assets/1/uhbw_quality_account_2021-22_-_final.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.

- **Number of claims settled**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **Amount of compensation paid out**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

- **Does the hospital have a maternity ward?**

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

- **Gender of claimants % (male/female/other)**

We cannot provide this information; we do not record the gender identity of claimants.

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:

Data Protection Officer
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