

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-039**

7 February 2024

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

**Please provide the following for the last five years, from Jan 1 2019 until December 31 2023.**

**Please break each of the following down by year (i.e. January 1 2023-December 31 2023; January 1 2022- December 31 2022, etc), and only include each case once (i.e. not the number of occasions one individual attempts to access services):**

**How many cases or suspected cases of FGM have been identified?**

**2019** 489

**2020** 434

**2021** 491

**2022** 409

**2023** 337

**How many of these cases were identified of children under 18?**

Nine

**Of the cases identified in children under 18, how many cases were referred to the police?**

An alert is placed on records for observation purposes. A referral is made to our Safeguarding team and a contact is made to children's social care and to the police and this is all recorded in the patient's records. We also record if a baby girl is born to a mother who has had FGM and therefore will put an alert on records.

**Of all the cases recorded, how many cases were referred to the police?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would

significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**Of the cases identified, how many individuals requested reconstructive surgery via the NHS? Please include the type of reconstructive surgery.**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**How many of these individuals underwent reconstructive surgery via the NHS? Please include the type of reconstructive surgery.**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**Where this data is recorded, please provide the number of individuals who underwent reconstructive surgery out of the NHS.**

We do not hold this information.

**How many of the people identified as victims of, or likely victims of, FGM were referred to psychological or mental health support services?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**How many people were referred to specialist FGM support clinics?**

We do not have specialist FGM support clinics.

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**