

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-630

22 November 2022

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. Does your organisation have a policy that covers sexual safety, specifically preventing episodes of sexual misconduct and sexual violence involving patients, visitors and staff?

Yes

2. If your answer to question 1 was yes, please can you forward an electronic copy of the policy to me?

Please see the attached:

Safeguarding Patients Joint Policy v2.0

Safeguarding Allegations Against Members of Staff Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) v1.2

Reporting Assaults in a Clinical Setting Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) v2.2

3. If your answer to question 1 was yes, what date did the policy become effective?

The Safeguarding Patients Joint Policy became effective on 1 April 2020.

Safeguarding Allegations against Members of Staff SOP became effective in January 2021.

Reporting Assaults in a Clinical Setting SOP became effective in January 2022.

4. If you have updated your policy within the past five years, please can you provide me with an electronic copy of the policy it replaced? If the information is available, please can you specify how your current policy is now different.

Please see the attached documents:

Safeguarding Patients Joint Policy v1.0

Safeguarding Allegations Against Members of Staff Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) v1.1

Reporting Assaults in a Clinical Setting Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) v2.1

The policies have been updated, in line with Trust requirements, to reflect changes to the safeguarding legislation and best practice.

5. Has your organisation accepted vicarious liability for any cases of sexual assault or violence concerning any staff or patients in the past five years (2017 to date) (Please include any cases that may have led to an out of court settlement.)

No.

6. a) If your answer to question 5 was yes, please can you provide figures, specifically for the total number of cases and total compensation paid per year.

Not applicable.

b) If possible, can you provide a breakdown for each case, specifying year; cost; whether the claimant was a patient, staff member or other (please specify): and whether the perpetrator was a staff member or patient?

Not applicable.

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**