

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-973

20 January 2025

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 data separately for each year from 2018 onwards:

- **In each year, how many MHPS investigations were instigated?**
- **Please provide the length of time each investigation took to complete. Length of time should begin on the date the clinician was notified that an MHPS investigation was instigated and end on the date the Case Manager wrote to confirm the outcome of the initial fact-finding report and decision on next steps.**
- **How many of these MHPS investigations resulted in disciplinary proceedings?**
- **How many of these MHPS investigations concluded the allegations were not substantiated? How many MHPS investigations were incomplete at the date of this request?**
- **In how many of the MHPS investigations were external investigators appointed?**
- **Please provide the names of the external investigators and/or the companies for whom they worked or were contracted. What are the criteria by which an external investigator is appointed?**
- **For each calendar year what was the financial cost to the Trust of employing the services of an external investigator?**
- **In how many of these MHPS investigations did the allegations relate solely to conduct?**
- **In how many of these MHPS investigations did the allegations relate solely to capability?**
- **In how many of these investigations were the clinicians excluded during the investigation?**
- **In how many exclusions was the reason for exclusion capability concerns?**
- **In how many exclusions was the reason for exclusion concern of interference in investigation process?**
- **What was the shortest and the longest period of exclusion?**
- **What proportion of the investigated were male?**

- **What proportion of the excluded were male?**
- **How many investigations involved a clinician over the age of 50?**
- **What ethnic origin does the clinician under investigation identify as?**
- **What ethnic origin does the clinician excluded identify as?**

There have been over 60 cases from 2018 to date. Currently these are kept in paper files only. 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.

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