



Stockport

NHS Foundation Trust

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Our ref: FOI46035
27th July 2020

Request for Information

Dear Mr O'Donoghue,

I am writing regarding your request for an internal review of our original response sent out on the 13/07/2021.

We are pleased to provide the following information in response to your request for an internal review.

Your request for an internal review was passed onto our Director of Communications & Corporate Affairs.

Having considered our original response to this request, they agreed with the decision taken and that the information provided was correct.

As you didn't specify a time scale in your original request, the Trust used the last three years, which was July 2018 to 2021 to complete the search for incidents. This should have been clearly stated in our original response, apologies this was not.

Time scale used:

July 2018 - June 2019

July 2019 - June 2020

July 2020 - June 2021

If you require information for a specific period, then please resubmit a new request with the time scale clearly stated.

You also stated the following in your email:

The Trust has previously disclosed the Stephen Edgeley Review of DATIX information for the year up to July 2018. This review found "institution abuse" on the part of Security Staff. Within this review of DATIX Reports,

the Stockport Foundation NHS Trust found 82 incidents of alleged abuse by Security staff against patients. 51 of these reports contained allegations of physical assault against patients by members of the Security Team.

Mr Edgeley was hired as a consultant to carry out his review. This was commissioned by Miss Lynch in 2018 following the abuse of three patients by Security Staff that had been caught on CCTV earlier that year. The Trust has also been asked to correctly log all incidents that involve security staff.

As per our previous response (FOI 43756) and correspondence with our communications team, the Edgeley report looked at 82 incidents where security staff were called to assist clinical staff and not 82 incidents of alleged abuse by security. And of those 81 cases only 1 was highlighted as needing a more detailed review, but following consideration of bodycam footage there was no case to answer.

It is incorrect to state that there were 82 cases of alleged abuse by security staff against patients or that there were 51 allegations of physical assault.

The review looked at occasions when security staff were called to assist clinical staff trying to deal with patients or visitors who were behaving in a physically violent or abusive manner, or posing other risks to the safety or security of patients, staff or our hospital. Those who were physically violent were largely behaving in that manner due to their mental capacity, mental health issues, drug or alcohol abuse. Due to their behaviour they posed a risk to themselves, other patients and staff - which is why security staff were called to assist."

The FOI Act gives the applicant the right to access information but does not give an automatic right to re-use the information. The re-use of public sector information regulations 2005 regulates how individuals or companies re-use public sector information and provides a licensing scheme for re-use.

Please note that any individuals identified do not give permission for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing. Appropriate remedies will be sought in respect of any unsolicited marketing information supplied. If you have any queries about our response, please contact me, quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me in the first instance at the address below.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you have any queries about our response, please let me know by writing to the above address.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Sillitoe
Freedom of Information and Information Governance Support Officer