



6 February 2018

Information Rights & Compliance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: foi@hpft.nhs.uk

Our Ref: FOI 2766

Thank you for your request concerning allegations of sexual harassment.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

For each of the past five financial years (2012/13 to 2016/17) please tell me the following:

- 1. The total number of allegations of sexual harassment your Trust has recorded in each of the last five years broken down by year.**

The information you are requesting regarding allegations of sexual harassment involving staff is already in the public domain. Please follow this [link](#) to a previously published response.

We are unable to provide you with the number of patient to patient allegations because 'Sexual Harassment' is not a reportable category on our reporting system¹.

Please be advised that the FOIA does not oblige a public authority to answer a question if it would mean creating new information or give an opinion or judgment that is not already recorded.

To establish if we hold this information I have made enquires with our Risk Management Team and Complaints department.

- 2. For each of the five years please break those totals down to the following:**

- **Patient on staff sexual harassment**
- **Staff on staff sexual harassment**
- **Staff on patient sexual harassment**

We have applied Absolute Exemption S40(2)² to this part of your request due to the low number of reported allegations. This is because by further breaking down the information released under the previous response could potentially identify individual(s) and constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act (1998).

¹ Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

² Absolute Section 40(2) - Personal Data has been applied

- **Patient on patient sexual harassment**

Please explanation provided above under question 1.

3. Alongside each of the categories listed in 2, please state the outcome of the complaint. For example unsubstantiated, written warning, dismissed, training requirement, police informed

Please follow the link provided under question 1.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

**Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

