

21 October 2020

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/03555

Thank you for your request concerning Smoking and AWOL patients. We would like to apologise again for the prolonged delay in responding to your request.

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

1. Is the hospital smokefree (i.e. does not allow smoking anywhere on hospital grounds) and, if yes, what date did this happen?

Yes we are a smokefree Trust. A phased implementation started in September 2015.

2. How many patients/service users have absconded/gone AWOL while on leave for each separate calendar year since 2000 (or for each year you have information)?

All the data provided carries the provisos below:

- i. Only includes Acute Adult Inpatient Psychiatry, Elderly Inpatient Services, CAMHS Inpatient Services and Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit
- ii. Only includes detained patients

The below tables shows the number of incidents of AWOL during escorted leave where smoking was a contributory factor.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Abscond during escorted leave (detained MHA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Failure to return (section 17 leave)	4	14	15	8	8	10	6	11	18
Total	4	14	15	8	8	10	6	11	18

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Abscond during escorted leave (detained MHA)	0	8	6	3	13	11	15	15	22	14
Failure to return (section 17 leave)	16	25	20	14	24	81	67	59	45	20
Total	16	33	26	17	37	92	82	74	67	34

3. **Of these, how many patients/service users have absconded/gone AWOL while on leave to have a cigarette or where the report mentions cigarettes for each separate calendar year since 2000 (or for each year you have information)?**

The below table shows the number of incidents of AWOL during escorted leave where smoking was a contributory factor.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Abscond during escorted leave (detained MHA) where smoking was identified as a contributory factor	2	1	0	1	4

4. **When looking at all incident reports (not just those in which a patient absconded), how many incident reports mentioned "smoking", "smoke", "cigarette" or "lighter"**

The below tables show all incidents where smoking a contributory factor and each of the words specified.

	2017	2018	2019
Number of incident reports mentioning "smoking"	121	100	108

	2017	2018	2019
Number of incident reports mentioning "smoke"	61	62	61

CAVEAT - The word 'smoke' in an incident description can also refer to a fire, or electrical fault, anything which could generate smoke but has nothing to do with cigarettes.

	2017	2018	2019
Number of incident reports mentioning "cigarette"	78	99	111

	2017	2018	2019
Number of incident reports mentioning "lighter"	64	70	87

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](#).

