

21 July 2021

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
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Our Ref: FOI/04029

Thank you for your request concerning Investigations Under Children Act 1989.

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

- 1. For each of the years 2010 and 2020, how many investigations under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 involved any of these terms in the referral:**

**Fabricated or Induced Illness or FII  
Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy or MSbP  
Perplexing Presentation or PP  
Factitious Disorder Imposed on Another or FDIoA  
Snomed Code System Concept Code: 95637005**

- 2. How many of those investigations led to a child protection plan, and how many resulted in no further action being taken?**

We do not hold the information on either point mentioned above<sup>1</sup>.

As stated in section 47 of [Children Act 1989](#), the local authority has the duty to investigate cases of significant child abuse.

- 47 Local authority's duty to investigate.**
- (1) Where a local authority—
- are informed that a child who lives, or is found, in their area—
- is the subject of an emergency protection order; or
  - is in police protection; F1...

As an NHS Trust, HPFT does not have the authority to conduct section 47 investigations and for this reason we do not hold the above requested information. Hertfordshire County Council Children's services are the local responsible organisation for conducting section 47 investigations in Hertfordshire and they will hold the above information.

Under S16 – Duty to provide advice and assistance can we suggest you contact Herts County Council who will hold this information.

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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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](#).

