

24 August 2023

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

Tel: 01727 804227
Email: Hpkt.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/04816

Thank you for your request concerning police requests made to the Trust.

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

- The number of requests the trust has received from a police force to access information about a service user's treatment in each of the following financial years: 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23**

Police Requests for Information	
2018/19	174
2019/20	161
2020/21	154
2021/22	158
2022/23	155

- The number of requests the trust has received from a police force to access information about a service user's treatment where the trust has refused or declined to provide that information in each of the following financial years: 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23.**

The Trust considers all statutory requests on a case by case basis. All requests for information disclosure must be justified, and limited to the minimum necessary information. We have not yet handled a case where the whole request has been refused; if there are concerns that a request is unjustified, we would work with the Police to understand the full context, and provide the minimum necessary information to meet the purpose of the request.

The following data shows the number of cases where the Trust did not hold any information on the data subject.

Records Not Held	
2018/19	14
2019/20	14
2020/21	6
2021/22	14
2022/23	21

3. If possible, the number of requests the trust has received from a police force to access information about a service user's treatment where the police have been investigating an alleged sexual offence in each of the following financial years: 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23

To provide the breakdown of alleged sexual abuse would invoke S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit because this is not held in a reportable format.

In order for us to provide this information would involve us manually going through the identified service users record (802 records). At a conservative estimate of 10 mins per record, this would equate to a minimum of 133.66 hours work @ £25 per hour = £3,341.66. Therefore we have applied exemption S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

In addition, we do not believe reading through individuals medical records for the purpose of a FOI request would be in line with the GDPR Data Protection Principles or the Caldicott Principles.

4. If possible, the number of requests the trust has received from a police force to access information about a service user's treatment where the police have been investigating an alleged sexual offence where the trust has refused or declined to provide that information in each of the following financial years: 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23

Please see the answer to question 2 - requests for information would not be refused unless we did not hold information on the data subject.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, 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](#).

