

31 August 2023

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/04738

Thank you for your request concerning the ethnicity of sexual misconduct perpetrators.

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

In the recent BBC health news, published on 23rd May 2023, suggesting that more than 35,000 incidents of sexual misconduct and sexual violence were recorded on NHS premises between 2017 to 2023. According to the news report, the data was collected by the British Medical Journal (BMJ) and the Guardian newspaper from 212 Trusts in England and share with BBC file on 4.

This report does not give any specific information about the ethnicity of the perpetrators and those of the victims in the above-mentioned cases.

I seek information regarding the ethnicity or national identity of the perpetrators and the victims in cases of sexual misconduct and violence in your Trust.

Ethnicity is not reported on our Incident Reporting system.

To provide the ethnicity would involve cross referencing and scrutinizing the data across two different reporting systems. This would exceed the appropriate limit and therefore under the terms of Section 12 of the Act, we are not obliged to comply¹.

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.

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](#).



¹ Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit