

Ref: FOI/2022/8608

Date Received: 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Response Due: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

**Please can you tell me how many sexual abuse incidents and rapes (separately if you measure these separately, combined if you do not) have been recorded within your trust in the years: 2017/8, 2018/19, 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 so far.**

Year	Combined Total
2017/2018	0
2018/2019	<5
2019/2020	8
2020/2021	<5
2021/2022	<5
2022/2023	<5

### Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

Please note that this data relates to incidents reported on the Trust's incident reporting system and may not relate to validated sexual abuse or rape incidents, as this is not for the Trust to determine or record. These incidents have been reported to us by patients and may not relate to an incident that occurred within the Trust.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Yours sincerely,



Rabina Tindale  
Chief Nurse & DIPC

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111