



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters
Chief Nurse

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan
WN1 2NN

T: 01942 773291

E: kevin.parker-evans@wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10251

Date Received: 28th October 2024

Response Due: 25th November 2024

Date: 20th November 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 28th October 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Firstly, I would like to request the following under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

For each financial year (April 2019-March 2020, April 2020-March 2021, April 2021-March 2022, April 2022-March 2023 and April 2023-March 2024 - or as close to these time frames as possible), please provide:

A. The number of Prevent referrals made by staff for patients made by your Trust?

2019/20 = N/A*

2020/21 = N/A*

2021/22 = 0

2022/23 = 0

2023/24 = <5.

*There is no data available for 2019/20 – 2020/21.

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:

- a) 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
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

B. The number of your Trust's Prevent referrals made by staff for patients that have been discussed at the Channel Panel?

<5.

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:

- a) 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
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

C. The number of patients that your Trust referred under Prevent who received Channel support?

None. Consent was not provided by individuals for the support offered, therefore didn't take place.

For A), B) and C) can you please provide where possible the numbers distributed by:

1. Whether the referral was made by a mental health service/department, or a non-mental health service/department?

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please see below.

2. The ethnic groups of the referred people?

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please see below.

3. The religious/faith groups of the referred people?

This information is not recorded.

4. The type of concern?

This information is being withheld under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please see below.

Please note that questions 1-4 are being withheld under section 40(2) (personal information) of the Act. This is because releasing the breakdown of the referral would make individual patients identifiable.

Section 40(2) is an 'absolute' exemption, and the Trust is not obliged to consider whether the public interest favours disclosing the information.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of the information would, amongst other things, contravene one of the

data protection principles in Article 5 of the UK GDPR. In this case, I believe disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully.

Secondly, I would like to request the following under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

All recorded information in the form of (i)Correspondence including emails & letters, (ii)Documents, (iii)Meeting Minutes - held by or on behalf of the Trust since October 1st 2023, referencing the terms ['Prevent' or 'Prevent Duty' or 'Prevent Referral'] collocated with the terms ['Palestine' or 'Palestinian' or 'Gaza' or 'Israel' or 'Israeli' or 'Middle East'].

We are unable to provide this information as the information is not held in a reportable or structured format in our central system and records would have to be reviewed manually which would exceed the appropriate time limit. The Trust has to take into account the cost attributable to the time spent in locating, retrieving, and collating the information. We have therefore applied exemption Section 12 (4) (b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000-beyond appropriate limit. The appropriate limit is set at £450.00 (18hrs @ £25 per hour).

Refusal Notice for question(s) - The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

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 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



KEVIN PARKER-EVANS

Kevin Parker-Evans MBA, FCSI, CMgr. RN Dip HE

Chief Nursing Officer & Director of Infection Prevention and Control

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