



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department
Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2023/9244

Date Received: 22nd September 2023

Response Due: 20th October 2023

Date: 10th October 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

**How many individual cases regarding disclosures made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistleblowers have you fought at employment tribunals since 2015?
Please include a year by year breakdown.**

None

**How much has been spent on external lawyers and legal advice for Employment Tribunal Litigation pertaining to public interest disclosures in the past five years?
Please include a year by year breakdown.**

Zero

Please can you include the name(s) of the law firm(s) and barristers involved and itemise how much was spent on each?

N/A

How many ongoing cases are there pertaining to the above and in which year did they start?

None

What is the longest ongoing case relating to any of the above and what has been the cost of this to date?

N/A

How many 'guardians' has the trust employed each year since 2015 to date? Please provide a breakdown for each.

<5 guardians

2015 – 2019 = <5

2019-2021 = <5

2021-2023 = <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:

- 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).

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,



Sanjay Arya
Medical Director

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