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9 August 2017

Freedom of Information Request - Ref: FOI 093-1718

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request about assaults on staff and patients. Please find the Trust's response below.

- 1) Please state the number of assaults that were conducted by:
 - a) Patient on staff
 - b) Patient on patient
 - c) Staff on patient
 - d) Staff on staff

Recorded at hospitals and other premises of your mental health trust/board in each of the following financial years: 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17.

2) Please provide, for each assault, a description of each assault and details of where the assault took place (e.g. in a secure unit/in a consultation room/hospital ward), if possible under the cost limit set out by the FOIA.

The Trust replaced its incident reporting system in April 2016, and incidents were categorised differently on the old system. Consequently for the period to 31 March 2016 retrieval of the information would require manual examination of each incident report, which would exceed the cost limit set out in section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. The Trust is therefore unable to respond fully to your request.

However, in the interests of rendering assistance to requesters, I can confirm that information regarding assaults on NHS staff for 2102/13-2015/16 is publicly available on the NHS Business Services Authority website using the following links:

- i) 2012/13 https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-03/2012 13%20Reported%20physical%20assaults%20on%20NHS%20staff.pdf
- ii) 2013/14 https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-03/Reported Physical Assaults 2013-14.pdf
- iii) 2014/15 https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-03/Reported_Physical_Assaults_2014-15_-_FINAL_Published_Figures.pdf
- iv) 2015/16

https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/201703/Reported Physical Assaults 2015-16_Final.pdf

I can also confirm that during the periods quoted, there were no assaults by staff on patients or on other members of staff.

In respect of incidents of assaults by patients on staff, and assaults by patients on patients in 2016/17, spreadsheets are attached which provide details of these incidents.

Should you have any queries in relation to our response in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you are unhappy with the response you have received in relation to your request and wish to ask us to review our response, you should write to:-

Anna Hilditch Assistant Trust Secretary, ²gether NHS Foundation Trust Rikenel Montpellier GLOUCESTER GL1 1LY Tel: 01452 894165

E-mail: anna.hilditch@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of any review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for further advice/guidance. Generally, the ICO will not consider your case unless you have exhausted your enquiries with the Trust which should include considering the use of the Trust's formal complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Evans

LISA EVANS Information Governance Officer ²gether NHS Foundation Trust

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or write to: OPSI, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ.