

Our Ref: CTFOI1696

17th January 2022

Quality and Governance Service
Wirral Community Health and Care
NHS Foundation Trust
Wing 5, 1st Floor
St Catherine's Health Centre
Derby Road
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH42 0LQ
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www.wchc.nhs.uk

Original Request and Response

I would like to be provided with the following information regarding third-party sexual harassment. The definition of third-party sexual harassment is when a staff member is harassed by a patient. The harassment can constitute inappropriate language, inappropriate touching, unwanted sexual advances, and sharing or sending of lewd images on social media.

Please note that there are three parts to this request:

1. Please confirm how many reports of third-party sexual harassment your Trust has received from staff members between 31 October 2013 and 31 October 2021.

Trust Response – 11 reports between 31 October 2013 and 31 October 2021.

2. Does your Trust have a policy to manage third-party sexual harassment?

Trust Response – The Trusts 'Bullying & Harassment Policy HRP4 version 5' supports staff to work in an environment that is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination and this includes managing third party sexual harassment.

3. If your Trust has a policy on third-party sexual harassment, what were the outcomes of any complaints made to you by staff members? If it does not push the request over the cost limit please provide a summary of the allegation (such as inappropriate touching, inappropriate messages or rape) and the outcome, including what disciplinary action, if any, was taken. Additionally, if it does not push the request over the cost limit, please provide the race and gender of both the person making the allegation and who the allegation was against.

Trust Response – All of the 11 reports were verbal comments made to staff members either by service users or service users family members. We do not collect data on the ethnicity of the staff members reporting incidents or the ethnicity of any alleged perpetrator. All allegations of abuse towards our staff are investigated by our Local Security Management Specialist and appropriate measures put in place i.e. ensuring joint visits so as staff members are not alone with any alleged perpetrator.

If you are not satisfied that your Freedom of Information request has been dealt with in an adequate manner, you have the right to request a review, requiring us to review our action and response. To request a review of this response, please contact the FOI Officer, Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, St Catherine's Health Centre, Derby Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH42

0LQ or email: WCNT.foi@nhs.net. You will receive a full response to your request for review within 20 working days of its receipt.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request for review, you may ask the Information Commissioner to review our decision: The Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, Telephone: 01625 545700.



**Wirral Community Health and Care
NHS Foundation Trust**
Chair: Professor Michael Brown CBE DL
Chief Executive: Karen Howell