

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-012025-0001383

Date: 7.2.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please can you provide answers to the below questions under the FOI act.

Questions 1 to 11 –

As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the person/s involved. Due to the low numbers in the time frame requested Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

Freedom of Information requests are not confidential as they are published on the Trust's external website for anyone to see.

1. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a consultant that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?

2. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a junior doctor that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?

3. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a nurse that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?

4. Please answer yes or no. Has your Trust conducted / started or concluded an internal or external review / investigation of a medical member of staff since January 1st 2023 following a whistleblower or patient raising concerns?

5. Please answer yes or no. If you answered yes to question 4 - did the member of medical staff being investigated continue to have contact with patients whilst the... review/investigation/report being written... was ongoing?

6. If you answered yes to Question 4, is the member(s) of staff that was investigated / reviewed still working at your Trust following the review conclusions?

7. If you answered yes to Question 4, for those reports that have concluded, was the member of staff that was investigated / reviewed found to have fallen short of the standards your Trust would expect from their medical staff?

8. If you answered yes to Question 4, how many members of medical staff were reviewed/ investigated following an internal whistleblower raising concerns?

9. If you answered yes to Question 4, was the whistleblower also investigated?

10. Please answer yes or no. Do you have any experience with a malicious whistleblower? If yes, please share further details if able. (An example of a malicious whistleblower is someone that reports a colleague purely because they want to cause that person repetitional harm, not because they have any actual knowledge of them falling below expected standards for the trust).

11. Please share any review conclusions / reports / write ups where possible.

12. Please share any further details of your whistleblower policy here. How do you manage whistleblowers when they raise concerns? – Please see attached policy - for a copy of the policy please contact dgft.foi@nhs.net quoting the reference number FOI-012025-0001383

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

